

**Report of the
Commissioners
of the
District of
Columbia**

1927/1928

(Washington, DC)



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REPORT OF
THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

FOR THE YEAR

ENDED JUNE 30

District of Columbia.

Commissioners.

T. Report

1928



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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 3, 1928.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled:

The Commissioners of the District of Columbia transmit herewith their report of the transactions of the government of the District of Columbia during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1928, as required by law.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

APPROPRIATIONS

The cash receipts of the District of Columbia for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1928, amounted to \$36,997,648.85. Revenues of the District of Columbia from taxes and miscellaneous sources, \$27,929,606.21; amount paid by the United States on account of its proportion of appropriations, \$68,042.64; amount transferred to the revenues of the District of Columbia by the United States, \$9,000,000.00.

The collections from taxes on real estate for the fiscal year 1928 amounted to \$18,818,877.38; collections from taxes on personal property, including taxes on gross earnings and receipts of public utilities, banks, and building associations and on gross receipts of street railway companies, \$3,556,685.35; and collections from taxes on intangible personal property, \$2,378,569.28. Collections from miscellaneous sources amounting to \$3,175,474.20.

The cash expenditures for the fiscal year 1928 from appropriations amounted to \$34,261,314.91, classified as follows:

General government.....	\$1,759,720.88
Protection of life and property.....	5,686,163.90
Health and sanitation.....	3,451,372.24
Highways.....	2,947,832.59
Public welfare.....	4,575,691.95
Education.....	11,994,418.27
Recreation.....	3,037,063.88
Miscellaneous.....	137,663.72
Public-service enterprises.....	671,387.48
Total.....	34,261,314.91

TRUST AND SPECIAL FUNDS

The collections on account of trust and special funds for the fiscal year 1928 amounted to \$5,303,149, water revenues representing \$1,422,690.68 of this total; policemen and firemen's relief fund, \$585,876.42; miscellaneous trust fund deposits, \$832,255.72; fund for redemption of real estate from tax sales, \$660,561.04; teachers' retirement fund, \$361,459.87; gas tax fund, \$1,402,832.11; and the balance being collections for a number of miscellaneous trust and special funds.

CASH BALANCES JUNE 30, 1928

The cash balance to the credit of the general fund of the District of Columbia in the Treasury of the United States on June 30, 1928, amounted to \$13,267,301.21, and to the credit of trust and special funds, \$957,453.73.

ASSESSMENT OF REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY

The act of Congress approved July 3, 1926 (Public, No. 480), provides that real estate in the District of Columbia shall be assessed annually for purposes of taxation.

AMOUNTS OF REAL-ESTATE ASSESSMENTS

The assessed value of land is \$531,211,850 and the assessed value of improvements was \$606,846,055, or a total of \$1,138,057,905 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1928.

The tax rate for the fiscal year 1929 has been fixed at \$1.70 per hundred.

The value of new buildings and additions added for the fiscal year 1928-29 amounted to \$36,892,600, located as follows: Northwest city, \$12,948,300; Northeast and southeast city, \$1,595,700; southwest city, \$374,800; northwest county and Georgetown, \$16,714,000; northeast and southeast county, \$5,259,800. Amount of assessment for improvements removed, \$672,600.

Assessments of land and improvements, District of Columbia, from 1911 to 1929, inclusive, as shown in yearly report

Year	Land	Improvements	Total	Rate	Tax
1911.....	\$151,616,821	\$143,150,726	\$294,767,547	1.50	\$4,421,513
1912.....	169,648,481	160,674,006	330,322,487	1.50	4,954,837
1913.....	169,153,985	170,045,005	339,198,990	1.50	5,087,985
1914.....	169,212,009	175,912,045	345,124,144	1.50	5,176,862
1915.....	208,279,494	182,029,784	390,309,278	1.50	5,854,639
1916.....	207,173,905	187,035,999	394,209,904	1.50	5,913,148
1917.....	207,355,359	194,734,873	402,090,232	1.50	6,031,488
1918.....	209,377,939	200,795,670	410,173,609	1.50	6,152,604
1919.....	208,097,025	206,513,666	414,610,691	1.50	6,219,160
1920.....	213,409,811	213,123,819	426,533,630	1.50	6,399,354
1921.....	213,785,853	221,008,933	434,794,786	1.95	8,478,498
1922.....	224,333,810	248,540,399	472,874,209	1.82	8,600,311
1923.....	335,538,719	387,660,549	723,199,268	1.30	9,401,590
1924.....	355,657,562	423,203,111	778,860,673	1.20	9,346,328
1925.....	355,752,055	463,875,517	819,627,572	1.40	11,474,758
1926.....	402,848,046	497,901,796	900,749,842	1.70	15,312,747
1927.....	400,882,739	545,487,703	946,370,442	1.80	17,034,614
1928.....	532,986,000	585,107,102	1,118,093,102	1.70	19,007,584
1929.....	531,211,850	606,846,055	1,138,057,905	1.70	19,346,984

1911 to 1922, inclusive, at two-thirds value. 1923 to 1928, inclusive, at full, true value.

PERSONAL TAX ASSESSMENTS

The personal tax levy for the fiscal year 1928 had a grand total of \$6,391,324.67, derived from three different classes of assessments. First, an amount derived from a levy on household furniture (above \$1,000 value), merchandise, jewelry, boats, vehicles, horses, etc., or what is commonly known as tangible personal property; second, from a tax on the gross earnings of banks, trust companies, and public-service corporations; third, from the tax on moneys and credits,

including moneys loaned and invested, bonds and shares of stock, or what is generally known as intangible personal property.

The following table shows the amount of tax levied for the various years under the act of July 1, 1902, and amendments, for the assessment of personal property:

Rate on intangible property, \$3 per thousand, 1918 to 1922, inclusive, and \$5 per thousand, 1923 to 1928, inclusive.

Year	Rate	Tangible personal property		Tax on public service corporations, banks, etc., per cent on gross earnings	Tax on intangible personal property	Total
		Value	Tax			
1903	\$1.50	\$14,872,536.00	\$233,095.49	\$340,437.57		\$563,533.06
1904	1.50	15,932,894.00	238,993.56	398,422.05		637,415.61
1905	1.50	17,624,805.00	264,373.08	401,875.12		666,248.20
1906	1.50	18,806,086.00	282,091.47	442,243.22		724,334.69
1907	1.50	20,700,403.00	310,506.06	495,181.94		805,688.00
1908	1.50	22,402,990.00	333,044.85	527,837.25		863,882.10
1909	1.50	23,182,110.00	352,100.50	567,352.78		919,453.28
1910	1.50	25,192,361.00	377,883.41	629,137.00		1,007,022.41
1911	1.50	27,550,662.00	413,259.93	676,280.86		1,089,540.79
1912	1.50	29,609,766.00	444,246.49	687,799.14		1,131,945.63
1913	1.50	32,122,407.00	481,836.11	713,219.19		1,195,055.30
1914	1.50	32,319,713.00	484,795.70	745,296.17		1,230,091.87
1915	1.50	34,539,823.00	517,962.23	757,804.96		1,275,827.31
1916	1.50	35,041,985.00	525,629.77	792,712.95		1,318,342.72
1917	1.50	38,316,667.00	574,750.01	796,624.90		1,371,374.91
1918	1.50	43,140,336.00	647,106.04	835,181.95	\$890,779.39	2,373,066.38
1919	1.50	50,226,510.50	843,397.66	951,234.04	880,519.34	2,675,151.04
1920	1.50	60,821,047.00	1,022,315.71	1,118,389.26	969,693.85	3,089,798.80
1921	1.95	83,844,796.25	1,634,973.53	1,472,027.91	971,848.74	4,078,849.18
1922	1.82	84,566,955.68	1,539,118.59	1,560,075.08	1,007,249.46	4,106,443.13
1923	1.30	87,588,795.93	1,138,653.88	1,596,262.58	1,825,395.45	4,560,311.91
1924	1.20	97,360,486.50	1,168,325.83	1,678,962.59	1,899,006.45	4,746,238.87
1925	1.40	99,977,565.80	1,399,685.92	1,732,329.65	2,050,530.94	5,182,546.51
1926	1.70	100,708,130.00	1,712,207.75	1,999,093.15	2,185,429.04	5,896,729.94
1927	1.80	104,623,370.00	1,883,220.66	2,043,923.63	2,362,984.43	6,290,134.72
1928	1.70	105,653,152.00	1,796,103.58	2,115,679.11	2,479,541.98	6,391,324.67

Personal tax, tangible and intangible, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1928

	Levy	Tax
Tangible personal property, at \$1.70 per \$100	\$105,653,152.00	\$1,796,103.58
Bonding companies, at 1½ per cent on gross receipts	1,093,324.00	16,399.86
Title insurance companies, at 1½ per cent on gross receipts	857,967.50	12,869.96
Building and loan associations, at 2 per cent on their gross earnings	2,890,435.00	57,808.06
Incorporated savings banks, at 4 per cent on their gross earnings less interest paid depositors	1,861,241.00	74,449.64
Electric light companies, at 4 per cent on gross earnings	6,839,802.00	274,592.08
Telephone companies, at 4 per cent on gross earnings	7,347,783.00	295,911.32
Street railway companies, at 4 per cent on gross receipts	10,996,159.48	439,606.38
Gas light companies, at 5 per cent on gross earnings	3,453,107.00	172,655.35
Georgetown Barge, Dock, Elevator & Railway Co., at 5 per cent on gross earnings	17,534.00	876.70
National banks, at 6 per cent on gross earnings	6,710,216.00	402,612.96
Trust companies, at 6 per cent on gross earnings	6,143,270.00	368,596.20
Private bankers, at \$500 per annum		
Total	151,878,018.98	3,911,782.60
Intangible personal property, 1928, at 0.05 of 1 per cent	495,008,396.00	2,479,541.98
Grand total for collection, 1928		6,391,324.67

Number of accounts, tangible property only	26,803
Number of accounts, intangible only	6,304
Number of accounts having both tangible and intangible, 1928	40,418
	73,525

The reason for reduction in number of accounts is that a number of duplicates were discovered and eliminated before levy was presented; likewise individual and business returns were consolidated in a number of cases.

SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS

The amount of special assessment work is set forth in the following statement of special assessments levied during the year ending June 30, 1928:

Assessment and permit work.....	\$360,767.14
Paving roadways.....	477,717.23
Assessments levied by juries for street extensions, opening minor streets and alleys and establishment of building lines.....	27,869.60
Total.....	866,353.97
Number of services served during the year.....	12,132
Number of tax certificates passed.....	22,092
Amounts levied under different character of work:	
Sidewalks.....	45,682.79
Curbs.....	43,672.54
Sewers.....	169,923.15
Paving alleys.....	101,488.66
Total.....	360,767.14
Under amounts collectible for extension of streets, minor streets, alleys, and establishment of building lines:	
Street extensions.....	21,240.60
Opening minor streets and alleys.....	6,629.00
Total.....	27,869.60

WATER-MAIN TAX DIVISION

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 1928, the water-main tax division levied assessments in the amount of \$182,543.38, as against \$245,044.27 for the same period ending June 30, 1927. The itemized collections follow:

*Water-main taxes collected.....	\$178,780.17
Water-main taxes collected by sale January.....	8,502.13
Interest collected.....	8,954.89
Total amount collected.....	196,237.19
Number of notices served.....	1,340
Number of tax certificates passed.....	22,092

STATEMENT A.—*Showing cash income of the District of Columbia from all sources during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1928, and expenditures therefrom on account of District of Columbia appropriations, trust, and special funds*

	Detail	Total	Grand total
CASH BALANCES JULY 1, 1927			
To the credit of the disbursing officer, District of Columbia, on account of:			
Appropriations.....	\$1, 224, 313. 12		
Trust and special funds.....	351, 598. 40	\$1, 575, 911. 52	
In the Treasury of the United States on account of:			
General fund of the District of Columbia.....	11, 451, 944. 16		
Trust and special funds.....	1, 171, 399. 92	12, 623, 344. 08	
INCOME			
Revenues collected account general fund of the District of Columbia.....	27, 929, 606. 21		
Amount transferred to the District of Columbia revenues by the United States.....	9, 000, 000. 00		
Amount paid by the United States account of proportion of District of Columbia appropriations.....	68, 042. 64		
Collections account of trust and special funds.....	5, 303, 149. 00	42, 300, 797. 85	
EXPENDITURES			
Net expenditures from appropriations.....	34, 261, 314. 91		
Net expenditures account of trust and special funds.....	5, 557, 512. 97		
Amount transferred to the policemen and firemen's relief fund.....	454, 645. 41	40, 273, 473. 29	
CASH BALANCES JUNE 30, 1928			
To the credit of the disbursing officer, District of Columbia, on account of:			
Appropriations.....	1, 690, 644. 60		
Trust and special funds.....	311, 180. 62	2, 001, 825. 22	
In the Treasury of the United States on account of:			
General fund of the District of Columbia.....	13, 267, 301. 21		
Trust and special funds.....	957, 453. 73	14, 224, 754. 94	
			\$56, 500, 053. 45

STATEMENT B.—*Account of the District of Columbia with the Treasury of the United States for receipts, other than trust and special funds, deposited in the Treasury of the United States during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1928, advances from appropriations payable from the revenues of said District, and cash balances of the District of Columbia*

	Detail	Total	Grand total
Cash balance to the credit of the general fund of the District of Columbia, July 1, 1927.....	\$11, 451, 944. 16		
Revenues of the District of Columbia deposited in the Treasury of the United States during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1928.....	27, 929, 606. 21		
Amount transferred to the credit of the revenues of the District of Columbia by the United States.....	9, 000, 000. 00	\$48, 381, 550. 37	
Net advances from all appropriations during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1928.....	34, 659, 603. 75		
Amount transferred to the policemen and firemen's relief fund.....	454, 645. 41	35, 114, 249. 16	
Balance to the credit of the general fund of the District of Columbia, June 30, 1928.....			\$13, 267, 301. 21

STATEMENT C.—*Statement of District of Columbia sinking fund account for fiscal year ended June 30, 1928*

	Detail	Total	Grand total
LIABILITIES			
District of Columbia 3.65 per cent bonds outstanding June 30, 1927.....	\$104,500.00		
District of Columbia 3.65 per cent bonds canceled by redemption during fiscal year 1928.....	550.00		
District of Columbia 3.65 per cent bonds outstanding June 30, 1928.....		\$103,950.00	
Reserve to meet registered and coupon interest outstanding June 30, 1928.....		3,232.74	
Balance of cash on hand.....		107,182.74 6,332.50	\$113,515.24
ASSETS			
Cash balance June 30, 1927.....		114,153.75	
District of Columbia 3.65 per cent bonds redeemed and interest paid during the fiscal year 1928.....		638.51	113,515.24

TRANSFERS AND SALES OF PROPERTY

During the past year the assessor's office has entered data relating to the transfer of 15,169 pieces of property, as compared with 17,483 of last year. Two clerks are employed continually in examining deeds in the land records of the District of Columbia (recorder of deeds office), and a short reference or brief of each transfer is entered on loose leaves, afterwards being permanently bound in book form, which become transfer books of ready reference.

GAS TAX

Under the act of Congress approved April 23, 1924, motor vehicles fuel importers are required to report monthly to this office as to the number of gallons of motor vehicle fuel sold, used, or otherwise disposed of, and to pay a tax at the rate of 2 cents per gallon. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1928, 27 companies and 4 Government agencies reported 59,986,678½ gallons, with the resultant tax of \$1,199,733.57. This indicated an increase in the number of gallons reported over 1927 of 5,426,065½ gallons, and an increase in tax of \$108,521.31. The Government agencies reported 591,173 gallons, with a tax of \$11,823.46. The number of gallons reported for the fiscal year 1928 would indicate that the average tax per car on motor vehicle fuel used for 12 months was \$12.

CHANGES IN PERSONNEL

Maj. William E. R. Covell, who had been one of the assistants to the engineer commissioner since September 12, 1924, was succeeded in that office by Maj. Donald A. Davison.

LICENSE BUREAU

During the year, this bureau collected a total of \$317,785.05 in license fees of all kinds. Of this total, \$156,044 was collected for motor vehicle registrations and \$161,741.05 was collected in fees for miscellaneous business licenses. As compared with the collections of the preceding year, the number of licenses and the amounts collected are shown by the following table:

Motor vehicle registrations

	Number	Amount
1927.....	132,500	\$141,116
1928.....	148,550	156,044
Increase.....	16,050	14,928

Miscellaneous business licenses

	Number	Amount
1927.....	14,078	\$167,410.14
1928.....	14,043	161,741.05
Decrease.....	35	5,669.09

Total for 1927.....	\$308,526.14
Total for 1928.....	317,785.05
Increase.....	9,258.91

As will be noted from the foregoing, the number of motor vehicle registrations and the amount collected therefrom for the fiscal year just ended show a marked increase over the corresponding figures for the preceding fiscal year.

The decrease in the amount collected in miscellaneous business license taxes is approximately the same as shown in the last annual report of this office.

By recent action of the commissioners a committee was appointed to make a study of the present law and to make recommendations for changes in the license laws. This committee is composed of Mr. Ringgold Hart, of the office of the corporation counsel, the superintendent of licenses, and Mr. D. P. Evans, of the Bureau of Efficiency. The work of the committee is progressing and it is expected to present to Congress at this session a revised license law.

PURCHASING OFFICE

Through this office are purchased all supplies, stores, materials, and equipment required by the various divisions of the Government of the District of Columbia.

The total expended during the year amounted to \$5,049,417.79, embracing supplies and materials of every conceivable nature, which may be classified generally as follows:

Agricultural supplies.....	\$5, 554. 87
Automobile supplies.....	42, 698. 73
Books, school, blank, reference, binding and binding materials....	118, 698. 39
Construction material used in road, street, and sewer work.....	1, 532, 388. 75
Drugs, chemicals, hospital and biological supplies, and physics equipment.....	73, 223. 87
Dry goods, clothing, boots, shoes, window shades, and flags.....	212, 337. 25
Electrical, plumbing supplies, cable and fire-alarm boxes.....	276, 600. 90
Fire apparatus and supplies; repairs, etc.....	113, 655. 09
Badges, buttons, and repairs.....	1, 550. 22
Flour, forage, and seed.....	101, 069. 58
Fuel.....	430, 413. 70
Eggs and milk.....	39, 813. 18
Groceries, poultry, meats, fish, and kitchen utensils.....	315, 779. 63
Vegetables and fruits.....	12, 658. 15
Furniture, floor coverings, and office equipment.....	180, 705. 04
Hardware, paints, oils, and lumber.....	401, 744. 25
Heating apparatus, ranges, stoves, radiators, and repairs.....	36, 234. 37
Ice.....	12, 562. 15
Laundry equipment and laundry service.....	30, 049. 81
Lighting service, gas and electricity, buildings only.....	174, 620. 95
Machinery, engines, pumps, tanks, and repairs.....	143, 090. 81
Pianos, organ, tuning and repairs.....	18, 870. 21
Playground and athletic supplies.....	31, 974. 50
Printing and engraving.....	66, 432. 86
Repairs miscellaneous, including minor repairs to buildings.....	43, 410. 83
Stationery and school supplies, including kindergarten.....	109, 712. 47
Tags, motor vehicles, dog, and wagon, including tag materials.....	14, 521. 42
Telegraph and telephone service.....	28, 487. 95
Transportation, freight, and expressage.....	67, 261. 33
Machines, computing, addressing, dictating, duplicating, type-writing.....	27, 509. 35
Motor vehicles and repairs.....	159, 485. 85
Miscellaneous.....	204, 387. 56
Postage.....	21, 913. 77
Total.....	5, 049, 417. 79

CADETS AT THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

The District of Columbia is entitled, under section 1 of "An act making appropriations for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1919," and other laws, to four cadetships in the United States Military Academy. The present appointees are Donald R. Patterson for the term ending in June, 1931, and Earl Gilmore Wheeler, Rush Blodgett Lincoln, jr., and William Menohar, jr., for the term ending in June, 1932.

MIDSHIPMEN AT THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

Under a provision in the act of Congress entitled "An act making appropriations for the naval service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1920, and for other purposes," approved July 11, 1919, two midshipmen from the District of Columbia are in the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis. These midshipmen are James Alvin Adkins and Charles Bowling Martell, for the terms to be completed in June, 1930. In the appropriation for the naval service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1927, the number of midshipmen to be appointed from the District of Columbia is restricted to two.

CORPORATION COUNSEL

During the fiscal year this office had two important questions before the Supreme Court of the United States, one of which remains undecided. The decided case was that of *Brown v. Rudolph and Bell*, two former Commissioners of the District of Columbia, wherein it was attempted to hold the commissioners personally liable in damages for official acts performed by them in the administration of the lunacy laws of the District of Columbia. The case was originally heard on a demurrer in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, and the demurrer was sustained. On appeal, the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia sustained the decision of the lower court. The plaintiff then applied to the Supreme Court of the United States for a writ of certiorari, and a brief in opposition to the granting of such writ was filed by this office in behalf of the defendants. The writ was denied. This case sustained the contention of the defendants that they could not be held personally liable in damages for mere errors of judgment in the performance of their official duties as Commissioners of the District of Columbia, if any such error had been committed. As a matter of fact, no such error was committed, the plaintiff having been determined to be of unsound mind by the verdict of a jury in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia; the verdict was thereafter confirmed by the court of appeals and the appellant was committed to St. Elizabeths Hospital, where he remained for 33 months, after the lapse of which time he sued out a writ of habeas corpus, and pending hearing was declared by a jury to be sane. Thereafter he filed suit in which he sought to recover damages from the commissioners upon the theory that there were certain formal and technical defects in the original lunacy proceeding, in routine matters of a clerical nature preceding the execution and filing of the lunacy petition, it being the apparent contention of plaintiff that the defendant commissioners became personally responsible in damages in the event that there was any formal or technical defect in any of the aforesaid proceedings.

A second question of great importance to the District of Columbia, and to the property owners therein, arose during the fiscal year in a condemnation cause. Reversing the decision of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, our court of appeals held void assessments for benefits in condemnation cases where it appeared that property holders so assessed had not received actual notice of the particular condemnation proceedings. Our laws upon this subject require that notice of the particular condemnation proceeding be served upon the owners of all property, any part of which was to be taken by the proceeding for public purposes; and that publication in the daily papers also be had. No mention was made of owners of property which might be assessed by a jury for benefits, and, it was manifestly impossible to know in advance what properties the jury would so assess. Realizing the importance of this decision, application was made to the Supreme Court of the United States for the granting of a writ of certiorari. The application has not yet been acted upon.

In the meantime the attention of Congress was called to this decision of the court of appeals, resulting in the act of Congress approved May 29, 1928, which provides for a form of notice in similar cases,

thus clearing up this disputed item of procedure. The attention of Congress was directed to this situation so that whatever action is taken by the Supreme Court of the United States, the matter is now cleared for future cases. Should the Supreme Court of the United States refuse to review the decision of the court of appeals, or, in the event that the Supreme Court grants the writ and thereafter sustains the decision of the court of appeals, considerable time would have passed before this important matter could have been called to the attention of Congress and remedial legislation secured. By promptly calling the matter to the attention of Congress, and securing legislation upon the subject, material time has been saved and a possible breakdown in condemnation cases has been avoided.

COURT OF APPEALS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

During the fiscal year the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia rendered decisions in 12 cases in which the District of Columbia was a party. Five such decisions were favorable and 7 adverse to the District of Columbia; 1 case was dismissed before hearing by the attorney for the appellant, and 19 cases are now pending in that court. It should be said, in passing, that a number of these cases were taken to the Court of Appeals for review in order that the law might be definitely and positively established in matters frequently arising in the conduct of the municipal government.

SUPREME COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

During the fiscal year 45 actions at law were filed in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia in which the District of Columbia was named as a party defendant, 7 against policemen, 1 against the building inspector, 2 against the Board of Education, and 1 replevin suit against the major and superintendent of police, all of which were defended by this office. Four cases were filed by this office in behalf of the District of Columbia in this court, exclusive of proceedings in condemnation hereinafter referred to.

In this court 90 cases in which the District of Columbia was a party defendant were disposed of during the fiscal year. Five such cases resulted in favor of the District of Columbia, after trial; 7 such cases resulted adversely to the District of Columbia, and appeals were noted in 2 such cases; the District of Columbia consented to judgment in 6 such cases; 18 such cases were settled and dismissed, and 55 cases against the District of Columbia were dismissed by the plaintiffs before trial.

Of these 55 dismissed cases, 52 were suits against the District of Columbia growing out of the Knickerbocker Theater disaster. Of the 18 cases settled and dismissed, 17 had been long pending and involved the collection of real-estate taxes due to the District of Columbia for the Washington Terminal area; amounts due for lighting the terminal area; damages claimed for the sinking of the tunnel on First Street NE., and the amount claimed by the District of Columbia against the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Co. and the Pennsylvania Railroad Co. in connection with the construction of the viaduct on Benning Road NE. In these familiarly known terminal tax cases, terminal lighting cases, tunnel cases, and viaduct cases, in

which full reports have heretofore been made by this office to the commissioners, a total recovery in behalf of the District of Columbia was secured in the amount of \$395,128.45. The settlement of these cases brought to a close a controversy of long standing.

Forty-one equity suits were filed in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia during the fiscal year, in which the District of Columbia was named as a party defendant. One equity suit was filed by this office in behalf of the District of Columbia in this court.

Seventeen equity cases were disposed of during the fiscal year, 7 in favor of the District of Columbia and 10 resulted adversely to the District of Columbia, in 7 of which cases appeals have been taken by the municipality to the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia.

At the beginning of the fiscal year there were pending in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, holding a district court, 33 proceedings in condemnation. During the fiscal year 15 additional condemnation cases were filed. During the fiscal year 19 verdicts in condemnation cases were finally ratified and confirmed, 7 proceedings were discontinued by the commissioners, and 30 such cases are now pending.

This office, during the fiscal year, represented municipal officials in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia in six habeas corpus proceedings. Three such proceedings resulted in decisions favorable to the District officials; one resulted in an adverse decision and two are pending.

Lunacy proceedings to the number of 440 were filed by this office in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia during the fiscal year. Of this number, 370 respondents were found to be of unsound mind and committed to the Government Hospital for the Insane; 22 respondents were adjudged not insane and discharged; the petitions in 13 cases were dismissed on motion of the assistant corporation counsel, it appearing that the respondents, although of unsound mind, could be cared for by relatives or friends without danger to the public. Fourteen respondents were discharged by the superintendent of St. Elizabeths Hospital before trial, 9 respondents died before trial, 1 respondent was admitted to the hospital on a duplicate permit, and 11 cases are pending.

MUNICIPAL COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

In the municipal court, replevin proceedings to the number of four were filed against officials of the Metropolitan police department and the defendants represented by this office. In each of said cases satisfactory proof of ownership of the property involved was established by the plaintiffs and their property restored to them.

Five hundred and eighty-eight other proceedings were instituted against the District of Columbia in the municipal court during the fiscal year, of which number 436 were suits by school teachers claiming longevity pay. Five of those cases were selected as test cases and were tried and decided in favor of the plaintiffs. Appeals were noted in all five cases and are now pending in the court of appeals. Three cases were dismissed by the plaintiffs prior to trial; 11 cases were settled without trial; 1 was tried and judgment rendered in favor of the District of Columbia; 2 cases were decided adversely to

the District of Columbia; 1 case was dismissed and 569 are pending, including the school teachers' cases referred to above. The majority of other such pending cases involve suits under the so-called Borland laws.

POLICE COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

During the fiscal year informations to the number of 71,272 were filed in the District branch of the police court, and during that period fines and forfeitures aggregating \$315,040.60 were collected. The increase in the number of informations filed in this court over the last fiscal year numbered 11,361. Of the total 71,272 informations filed, 41,986 were for violations of the traffic regulations and 29,286 for miscellaneous violations of police regulations and acts of Congress in the nature of police regulations.

The increase in traffic court informations filed over the last fiscal year numbered 7,963 and the increase in police court cases numbered 3,403. Fines and forfeitures in traffic cases for the fiscal year amounted to \$170,288.36 and in miscellaneous cases amounted to \$144,752.24. During the present fiscal year the increase in fines and forfeitures collected in this court over the last fiscal year amounted to \$87,741.56.

A detailed statement, by offenses, of number of cases filed in police and traffic courts for the fiscal years 1926-27 and 1927-28 is given for your information.

POLICE COURT CASES

	July 1, 1926, to June 30, 1927	July 1, 1927, to June 30, 1928		July 1, 1926, to June 30, 1927	July 1, 1927, to June 30, 1928
Intoxication.....	12,988	14,072	Female 8-hour law.....	30	19
Drinking in public.....	92	98	Health ordinance.....	392	346
Disorderly conduct.....	8,796	10,876	Police regulations.....	2,583	2,782
Enticing prostitution.....	150	78	Weights and measures.....	65	85
Indecent exposure.....	133	112	Throwing missiles.....	12	11
Nuisance.....	130	54			
Smoke law.....	517	753	Total.....	25,888	29,286

TRAFFIC COURT CASES

Driving intoxicated.....	537	356	Reckless driving.....	1,535	1,560
Leave after colliding.....	322	317	Passing street car.....	318	262
No permit.....	1,136	1,841	Bad brakes.....	261	264
Reckless driving, second offense.....	22	38	Minor offenses.....	25,464	30,039
Speeding, third offense.....	26	53			
Revoked permit.....	71	69	Total.....	34,023	41,986
Speeding.....	4,866	7,141			

Fiscal year 1927:

District of Columbia cases.....	29,286
Traffic cases.....	41,986
Total cases.....	71,272

It will be noted that while the driving while intoxicated charges show a decrease of 181, the intoxication charges increased 1,084 and the speeding cases increased 2,275 over the previous fiscal year.

During the fiscal year 162 trials by jury were had in the District of Columbia branch of the police court. Of this number 56 such trials resulted in convictions, 84 in findings of not guilty, 19 in disagreements of the jury, and inquiries as to soundness of mind of the defendant in 3 cases.

It is extremely difficult to secure verdicts of "guilty" from juries in certain traffic matters. If the penalties were less drastic in certain "first offenses" and a degree of discretion was given to the trial judge in such cases, it is believed that a larger percentage of convictions would occur. Unless the circumstances are particularly flagrant in these "first offenses," it is almost impossible to find the defendant guilty before a jury, particularly where a jail sentence is mandatory. The law would be more effective if it was less drastic; if the trial judge was permitted to use his good judgment in particular cases of a "first offense."

Prior to the traffic act approved March 3, 1925, and amended by the act of July 3, 1926, the penalty for a violation of the speed regulations of the District of Columbia was fixed by the act of Congress approved June 29, 1906. By the act of Congress approved March 3, 1917, the Commissioners of the District of Columbia were authorized and empowered to make and enforce all regulations governing the speed of motor vehicles in the District of Columbia, subject to the penalties prescribed in the act of June 29, 1906.

Under the provisions of the said act of 1906, increased penalties for conviction of second and third offenses of speeding within one year was provided. Under the present traffic act aforesaid the "one-year provision" was eliminated, so that under existing law an offender can be charged with second and third offenses of speeding, no matter what the length of time is which has elapsed since the previous convictions.

The congested condition of the jury docket in police court has been a matter of grave concern for a number of years. This congestion was caused by the frequent demands for jury trials and the lack of machinery to try the numerous cases. A concerted effort was made by the representatives of this office at police court to relieve this congestion and those efforts have met with marked success. At the beginning of the fiscal year there were approximately 500 jury cases awaiting trial in the District of Columbia branch of the police court. At this time only 47 cases are pending in the District of Columbia branch of the police court in which jury trials have been demanded, 27 of them involving violations of the traffic regulations and 20 involving violations of miscellaneous municipal regulations and acts of Congress in the nature of municipal regulations.

Due to these efforts, jury trials are now accorded defendants within a comparatively short time after demands are made, and this has resulted in a less number of demands, for this procedure was very frequently resorted to in order to secure lengthy delays and many dismissals were due to the departure of witnesses, etc. To-day when such demands secure no material delay in bringing the cases to trial, it follows that fewer jury trials are required.

During the fiscal year under the authority of Congress, the night court ceased to function. As a result, the police court judges now sit simultaneously throughout the day, beginning the sessions of court at 9 o'clock, however, instead of at 9.30. It is believed that this act of Congress will greatly facilitate the workings of court and it will materially aid this office, as well, for it will relieve the assistant corporation counsels there from the very long hours which they were formerly required to work; one of them was on duty each day from 9 o'clock in the morning until 11 o'clock at night.

JUVENILE COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

During the fiscal year proceedings in the number of 2,691 were filed in the juvenile court resulting in 5,000 court hearings. Of these, 2,009 related to delinquent children and resulted in 1,649 convictions; 51 bastardy cases were tried, in 38 of which verdicts of guilty were rendered, 4 defendants adjudged guilty are out on bond. One hundred and ninety-five nonsupport cases were presented, in 137 of which guilty verdicts were reported and 2 were adjudged not guilty, 45 are awaiting trial. Child-labor cases were 18; compulsory school attendance cases were 108; destitute and dependent cases resulted in 307 commitments and recommitments.

The newly enacted law regulating the employment of minors within the District of Columbia, it is expected, will very materially increase the work of this office.

BOARD OF PUBLIC WELFARE

During the fiscal year this office, in conjunction with the Board of Public Welfare of the District of Columbia, secured from the estates of persons adjudged to be of unsound mind and committed to St. Elizabeths reimbursements to the District of Columbia in the sum of \$62,499.81, which amount represented the cost of care and treatment of such persons in that institution.

GENERAL WORK OF THE OFFICE

The general work of the office consisted of the approval as to form of 54 bonds, 403 contracts, 197 tax deeds, 27 right-of-way deeds, 10 licenses, 64 leases, and 26 special agreements. Three hundred and seventy-five written opinions were rendered to the commissioners. Many other opinions were given orally to the heads of departments and District officials, and a large number of consultations had of which no record is kept.

During the fiscal year this office received 778 reports of accidents and claims for damages, in which the District of Columbia might have been involved. Each report was investigated by the inspector of claims assigned to this office and reports thereon obtained and filed for future reference. This official also investigates and reports, in behalf of the Employee's Compensation Commission, all claims by municipal employees for damages alleged to have been sustained in the performance of their duties. As a result of these investigations during the fiscal year 415 employees of the District were found to have been injured in the performance of their duties, and, in addition to being rendered medical care, were compensated in the total amount of \$10,988.83. For medical attention, hospital service, and allowance in behalf of widows and minor children of municipal employees injured in line of duty, there was expended during the fiscal year the sum of \$17,570.32.

During the fiscal year \$1,942.49 was collected by this office for damages to lamp-posts within the District of Columbia.

The office of the corporation counsel provides chairmen for the police and firemen's retiring and relief board and also for the police trial board. An assistant corporation counsel acted as prosecutor at all hearings of the fire department trial board, and attended all

inquests where fatalities occurred in which the District of Columbia might possibly have been involved.

The principal assistant corporation counsel is sitting as chairman of a committee formed to bring the license laws up to date. This work requires a survey of the whole field of license laws and a study of such conditions in other municipalities. It is hoped, and believed, that recommendations will be completed in time so that the commissioners may consider them and make such suggestions to Congress as they may deem proper. Another assistant sits as a member of the committee to consider the adoption by the District of Columbia of the standard Government contract forms.

DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

The revenues of the department and their sources were as follows:

	Licenses issued	Collections
Companies and associations.....	479	\$10,167.57
Principal agents.....	363	16,804.34
Ordinary solicitors.....	2,991	12,862.85
Industrial solicitors.....	1,146	1,874.85
Brokers.....	63	2,770.90
Assignments.....	670	167.50
Filing fees.....	28	280.00
Total.....	5,740	44,928.01
TAXES		
Life companies.....		204,137.20
Fire companies.....		46,678.99
Casualty companies.....		33,383.49
Total.....		284,199.68
Grand total.....		329,127.66

During the year 1927 there were issued 479 company and association licenses, as compared with 457 in 1926, or a gain of 22.

PREMIUMS AND LOSSES PAID AND INSURANCE WRITTEN IN THE DISTRICT IN 1927

There were collected by all the insurance concerns doing business in the District during the year premiums totaling \$24,333,109.09, while losses paid totaled \$7,108,371.55. These figures are tabulated as follows:

	Premiums	Losses
Stock, life, and mutual companies and associations.....	\$15,390,889.74	\$3,785,730.28
Fraternals.....	619,715.22	395,147.48
Industrial and assessment life.....	1,923,724.40	652,451.85
Fire and marine.....	3,517,939.73	1,134,388.26
Reciprocal exchanges.....	14,554.34	5,041.63
Casualty companies.....	2,866,285.66	1,134,612.05
Grand total.....	24,333,109.09	7,108,371.55

The amount of insurance written during the year, exclusive of casualty, was \$2,698,826,464.16.

FIRE INSURANCE PREMIUMS AND LOSSES

Below is a comparative statement of the fire insurance premiums received and the losses paid in the District of Columbia for the past 10 years, viz:

	Premiums received	Losses paid	Percent-age
1918-----	\$1, 208, 030. 03	\$231, 140. 60	19 $\frac{1}{2}$ %
1919-----	1, 553, 605. 85	561, 784. 62	36 $\frac{1}{2}$ %
1920-----	1, 860, 474. 07	424, 310. 19	22 $\frac{1}{2}$ %
1921-----	1, 644, 984. 74	589, 198. 18	35 $\frac{1}{2}$ %
1922-----	1, 996, 996. 79	1, 069, 187. 28	55%
1923-----	2, 442, 344. 58	819, 799. 52	33 $\frac{1}{2}$ %
1924-----	2, 234, 029. 11	871, 674. 30	39%
1925-----	2, 521, 798. 62	847, 686. 35	33 $\frac{1}{2}$ %
1926-----	2, 771, 390. 32	900, 757. 21	32 $\frac{1}{2}$ %
1927-----	2, 591, 868. 30	752, 533. 44	29 $\frac{1}{2}$ %
Grand total-----	20, 825, 522. 41	7, 098, 071. 69	34 $\frac{1}{2}$ %

During the year 1927, 31 companies and associations were admitted to do business in the District, and in the same period 11 companies withdrew from the District.

COMPANIES AND ASSOCIATIONS EXAMINED

This department examined the Capital City Benefit Society, Home Plate Glass Insurance Co., National Union Fire Insurance Co., and the Mutual Protection Fire Insurance Co., all of the District of Columbia.

Convention examinations were made of the following concerns, of which the department had charge, viz, the American Workmen, a local fraternal society, and the Supreme Lodge, Knights of Pythias, Insurance Department of the District of Columbia, with executive offices at Indianapolis, Ind. The former examination was made in conjunction with the Mississippi insurance department and the latter, the Indiana insurance department.

In addition, the department had examiners on, or were represented in, the following examinations, viz: Standard Life Insurance Co., of Atlanta, Ga., and Eureka Springs, Ark.; Mutual Benefit Fund Association, of Richmond, Va.; Mutual Life Insurance Co., of Baltimore, Md.; Union Labor Life Insurance Co., of Maryland; our Home Life Insurance Co., of Jacksonville, Fla.; and the Continental Life Insurance Co., of Richmond, Va. The three latter companies have executive offices in Washington, and are in reality local institutions.

Owing to the reinsurance agreement between the National Benefit Life Insurance Co., of Washington, and the Standard Life Insurance Co., of Atlanta, Ga., and Eureka Springs, Ark., the insurance departments of the States of Alabama, Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky, and Missouri insisted upon a joint examination of the former company, which was commenced in August, 1927, but was not completed until May last.

WEIGHTS, MEASURES, AND MARKETS

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

The department of weights, measures, and markets is of great value to the public. It is charged by law with administration of the weights and measures act of 1921 and supervision of markets owned by the District. The weights and measures act covers a broad field of activity, requiring semiannual examination and test of all weighing and measuring instruments used for commercial purposes, and enforcement of numerous regulatory provisions relating to business transactions.

SUMMARY OF EXAMINATIONS AND TESTS

The following statement indicates in condensed form the number of examinations and tests made of weighing and measuring equipment:

	Total number examined	Num- ber con- demned		Total number examined	Num- ber con- demned
Spring scales.....	7,552	737	Automatic measuring pumps.....	5,952	731
Computing scales.....	4,585	467	Capacity measures.....	77,487	9,473
Counter scales.....	3,599	66	Milk bottles.....	1,772,811	
Counter platform scales.....	492	23	Avoirdupois weights.....	23,628	109
Platform scales.....	2,159	136	Linear measures.....	1,708	149
Dormant scales.....	180	24	Personal weighing scales.....	846	2,6
Abattoir and beam scales.....	552	28	Mechanical linear measures.....	704	18
Wagon and truck scales.....	325	65			
Prescription and jewelry scales and weights.....	7,688	138	Total.....	1,910,269	12,405

During the fiscal year inspectors made 11,215 official visits to business establishments and tested all weighing and measuring equipment in use. New equipment is examined and tested before being placed in use. Instruments used by all peddlers, hucksters, and other transient venders are also examined and tested in accordance with law.

In addition to regular work, 2,374 special inspections were also made.

For the purpose of fully protecting the public in regard to purchases of essential commodities, comprehensive surveys were made covering sales of certain important commodities such as bread, ice, package foods, gasoline, and coal.

Every complaint received was also made the basis of careful investigation, and such action was taken as the facts in each instance warranted. Shoppers were sent out in various sections of the city at frequent intervals to make test purchases of commodities from merchants and the quantity received in each instance was carefully verified.

It was necessary to institute prosecutions in 106 cases. None resulted in acquittal. The punishment inflicted by the courts is usually not extremely severe, but sufficient to correct the abuse. In the cases in question penalties ranged from \$3 to \$100, the total being \$1,288.

The superintendent has followed the constructive policy of furnishing information and directions to merchants regarding the provisions of the law applying to their respective lines of business, thus correcting many minor irregularities without prosecution.

The department has cooperated with other departments of the District government and with the Federal Government. Specifications for scales purchased for the public schools, the health department, and other agencies of the District government have been prepared, resulting in assurance that in buying scales the District government would secure those adapted to the purpose for which used and receive full value for the price paid. It has also cooperated with the Department of Agriculture in investigation of short weight interstate shipments of foods, and with the National Bureau of Standards in making surveys, within the District of Columbia, for obtaining information for use in revising specifications and tolerances for weighing and measuring instruments throughout the country.

In order to perform duties imposed upon the department it has been necessary for employees to work much overtime and out of regular hours, including nights and Sundays.

DISTRICT MARKETS

The District markets are: Farmers' Produce Market, Twelfth and B Streets NW.; fish market, Eleventh and Water Streets SW.; Eastern Market, Seventh and C Streets SE.; and Western Market, Twenty-first and K Streets NW.

The Farmers Produce Market, heretofore occupying the reservation surrounded by B, Little B, Tenth, and Twelfth Streets NW., was torn down during the year in order that the ground might be occupied by a portion of the new Internal Revenue Building to be constructed by the Federal Government. The operation of this market has, therefore, been disturbed and to a considerable extent disorganized. Farmers have been permitted to sell on the curb extending along B Street between Seventh and Fourteenth Streets NW., but it will probably be impossible to continue even this makeshift arrangement after the Federal building program, involving much adjacent territory, gets thoroughly under way, and, unless a new Farmers Market is provided, it will probably be necessary to entirely abandon operation of this useful municipal enterprise.

The fish market and wharves in connection therewith is confined largely to wholesale and retail sales of sea food. A large volume of business is transacted in the commodities falling within that classification. There is also unloaded at the wharves considerable quantities of miscellaneous freight, including potatoes and watermelons, from the lower Potomac Valley and elsewhere.

Eastern Market and Western Market are inclosed markets which have inside stands rented to dealers in various commodities and outside curb lines for farmers who sell at retail. The buildings are old and fail to measure up to modern requirements. An appropriation of \$35,000 for remodeling Western Market was made by Congress at the last session. The work will be done as promptly as possible, but the appropriation is insufficient to bring the market up to the proper standard.

Eastern Market is also in need of remodeling. Cold storage should be installed, and new stands to meet modern sanitary requirements should be constructed, provided this market is continued in operation.

The total revenue from all the District markets for the past year was \$41,450.06; the total expense, including salaries, maintenance, upkeep and repairs, was \$25,445.74, leaving a net profit of \$16,004.32. This is considered a reasonable revenue in view of the fact that the District markets were not intended to be operated for profit.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The superintendent has submitted for consideration the following recommendations:

1. Enactment of a statute which would require registration of names of owners of every business establishment within the District of Columbia, and providing reasonable and fair regulations governing admission to do business within the District of Columbia of corporations organized or domiciled elsewhere than in the District.

2. Enactment of a law providing for regulation of the quality of gasoline, fuel oils, lubricating oils, which may be sold within the District, and provide punishment for those guilty of misrepresentation

3. Enactment of law regulating issuance of permits for operation of businesses within the District calculated to foster honorably conducted business, afford the public protection against fraud, and providing that issuance of such permits shall be based upon character and reputation rather than solely upon payment of a fee, such regulations to be under administrative control of the department of weights, measures, and markets.

4. Addition to present provision of weights and measures law relating to bread to provide for limiting the quantity of moisture which may be contained in bread sold within the District of Columbia, and providing machinery for enforcement.

5. Passage of law authorizing purchase of suitable land for establishment of a new farmers' market, conveniently located, with adequate facilities for both wholesale and retail business by farmers, and large enough to provide for future growth.

6. Repeal of all existing statutes relating to milk bottles except the provision on that subject contained in the weights and measures law, and such amendments to that provision as may be desirable for the public welfare, thus bringing under administrative authority of one department all legal restrictions on this one subject.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Board of Education is composed of nine members, who shall have been for five years immediately preceding their appointment bona fide residents of the District of Columbia, and three of them shall be women. They are appointed by the judges of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia.

DAY SCHOOLS

The maximum enrollment of pupils in the public schools of the District of Columbia was: White, 52,098; colored, 25,895; total, 77,993.

The above enrollment for the school year was distributed as follows:

	White	Colored	Total
Elementary:			
Kindergartens.....	4,193	1,905	6,098
Grades I-VIII.....	31,520	17,450	48,970
Americanization.....	716		716
Atypical, special, and incorrigible.....	750	388	1,138
Junior high: Grades VII-IX.....	5,202	2,381	7,583
Senior high:			
Academic.....	6,506	1,553	8,059
Business.....	1,245	237	1,482
Technical.....	1,304	1,090	2,484
Normal.....	197	428	625
Vocational.....	375	463	838
Total enrollment.....	52,098	25,895	77,993

The maximum enrollment shows an increase of 1,629, or 2.13 per cent over the previous year.

The average number of pupils enrolled was: White, 47,206.6; colored, 23,734.3; total, 70,940.9.

The average number of pupils in daily attendance was: White, 42,953.9; colored, 21,503.3; total, 64,457.2.

The percentage of attendance was: White, 91; colored, 90.6; total, 90.9.

The percentage of absence was: White, 9; colored, 9.4; total, 9.1.

The number of weeks in the school year was 36.

The number of school days was 181.

The average number of days schools were in session was 180.4.

Teachers in all schools were distributed as follows:

	Administrative principals, assistant principals, heads of departments, and directors			Teachers and teaching principals			Grand total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Elementary:									
Kindergarten—									
Directors.....		2	2					2	2
Teachers.....					192	192		192	192
Grades I-VIII—									
Principals.....	8	43	51	5	37	42	13	80	93
Teachers.....				19	1,231	1,250	19	1,231	1,250
Ungraded—									
Principals.....		1	1					1	1
Teachers.....				2	73	75	2	73	75
Special departments—									
Directors.....	5	8	13				5	8	13
Teachers.....				40	167	208	40	167	207
Junior high:									
Principals.....	7	3	10				7	3	10
Teachers, grades VII-IX.....				68	253	321	68	253	321
Senior high:									
Principals.....	7		7				7		7
Assistant principals.....	2	7	9				2	7	9
Heads of departments.....	11	5	16				11	5	16
Teachers, grades IX-XII.....				153	353	506	153	353	506
Normal:									
Principals.....	1	1	2				1	1	2
Teachers, grades XIII-XIV.....				3	43	46	3	43	46
Vocational:									
Principals.....	2	2	4				2	2	4
Teachers.....				20	30	50	20	30	50
Grand total.....	43	72	115	310	2,380	2,690	353	2,452	2,805

Number of substitute teachers: White, 16; colored, 8; total, 24.

Number of librarians: White, 7; colored, 3; total, 10.

Number of clerks: White, 58; colored, 18; total, 76.

Number of messengers: White, none; colored, 1; total 1.

Janitorial service and care of buildings and grounds, 492.

Table showing the number of school buildings occupied during the year

	White	Colored	Total
School buildings:			
Elementary—			
Kindergartens.....	(1)	(1)	(1)
Grades.....	92	40	132
Miscellaneous and special.....	6	1	7
Junior high.....	8	5	13
Senior high.....	5	2	7
Normal.....	1	1	2
Vocational.....	3	2	5
Total.....	115	51	166
Portable.....	49	26	75
Rented or other buildings.....	7	4	11

¹ Kindergartens are housed in buildings with grade schools in general. There is also a kindergarten in each normal school.

² 7 white junior high schools occupy 8 buildings and 3 colored junior high schools occupy 5 buildings, a total of 10 junior high schools occupying 13 school buildings.

³ 2 buildings, Garnet and Patterson, razed to the ground during this school year for the purpose of reconstruction into a junior high school.

⁴ Including Children's Temporary Home School.

The permanent school buildings contain in addition to rooms above the basement, not strictly classrooms, used for laboratories, study halls, other regular school work, and basement rooms, also the following:

Assembly halls.....	38
Gymnasiums.....	19
Swimming pools.....	2

NIGHT-SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

There were enrolled in the night schools 10,495 pupils, of whom 6,955 were white and 3,540 colored.

The average number of pupils enrolled was 5,726.6—2,997.4 white and 2,729.2 colored.

The average nightly attendance was 4,732.5—2,491.5 white and 2,241 colored.

The per cent of attendance was 82.7—83.3 white and 82.1 colored.

There were, at the close of the session, 235 teachers—145 white and 90 colored. They were distributed as follows: 89 male teachers—53 white and 36 colored; 146 female teachers—92 white and 54 colored.

The average number of nights these schools were open was 90.5—90 white and 91 colored. The school open the least number of nights was the Abbot-Polk Vocational School, because most of the trade classes could be open only two nights a week; that open the greatest number of nights was the Americanization School located in the Webster School, the former being open 69.7 nights and the latter 106 nights.

These schools were taught in buildings used for day schools; 17 in all—8 white and 9 colored.

These figures include, as heretofore, those for Americanization work during the regular session for the scholastic year.

DEAF, DUMB, AND BLIND

Provision is made for the maintenance and tuition of deaf, dumb, and blind children. During the school year ended June 30, 1928, there were maintained at out-of-town institutions 91 pupils, as follows:

	White	Colored	Total
Blind.....	15	7	22
Deaf and dumb.....	59	10	69
Total.....	74	17	91

The institutions referred to above are as follows: Columbia Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, Washington, D. C.; Maryland School for the Blind (white and colored departments), Overlea, Md.

AMERICANIZATION WORK

Americanization work and the instruction of foreigners of all ages, both day and night, was carried on at the Webster School in the day and at the Webster, Curtis, Hine, and Jefferson Schools at night.

VACATION SCHOOLS

(From July 5, 1927, to August 12, 1927)

There were 10,012 pupils enrolled in the summer or vacation schools—white, 6,048; colored, 3,964. (See below for Americanization and playgrounds.)

	White	Colored	Total
Elementary.....	2,307	1,154	3,461
Junior high.....	405	311	716
Senior high.....	2,040	1,044	3,084
Total.....	4,752	2,509	7,261

The number of teaching centers was: White, 27; colored, 13. Of these centers, 2 were of senior high-school grade and 6 of junior high-school grade; total, 8—white, 3; colored, 5.

Other enrollments in the summer or vacation schools were as follows:

	White	Colored	Total
Outside playground enrollment.....	846	1,455	2,301
Americanization:			
Day.....	234		234
Night.....	216		216
Total.....	450		450
Total.....	1,296	1,455	2,751

¹ Community center.

The number of teachers in charge of all summer or vacation schools was as follows: White, 169—17 male, 152 female; colored, 78—25 male, 53 female; total, 247—male 42, female 205.

SCHOOL GARDENS

The school gardens were conducted during the summer months and throughout the school year. For the year there were 24 teachers employed—16 white, 8 colored; 2 male and 22 female.

Centers rented for school gardens.....	3
Centers rented for use of portable buildings.....	1

COMMUNITY CENTER DEPARTMENT

Civic, educational, and social activities were conducted by this department under the direction of the board of education in public-school buildings by the following personnel: Director, 1; general secretaries, 2; full-time secretaries, 7; part-time secretaries, 6; assistant secretaries, 4; clerks, 2; mechanics, 1; assistants, 44; other employees, occasional services, 168; in all, 235.

The total amount of money spent for the public schools, including \$2,964,212.88¹ for buildings and sites, was \$11,830,321.37.

THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

The public library system at the present time operates through a central building, seven branches and subbranches, and an extension service supplying temporary loans of books to schools, colleges, social settlements, Government bureaus, etc. The library trustees report that during the last fiscal year 1,578,422 volumes and 148,352 mounted pictures were circulated to the homes and offices of the citizens of Washington and that 73,692 persons are registered as borrowers of books and pictures from the library. They point out, however, that only one-third of the population has practicable library service and that such large sections as Brightwood, Petworth, Sixteenth Street Heights, Wesley Heights, Cleveland Park, Dupont Circle, Georgetown, Foxhall Village, Brookland, Eckington, Woodridge, Kenilworth, Benning, Anacostia, Congress Heights, southwest Washington, and nearly the whole of the northeast, are practically without library facilities, since the central library and present branches are too distant for satisfactory use and the library therefore has no effective existence for their citizens. The library trustees also point out that in all other American municipalities having populations of 200,000 and over the average number of branch libraries is 17 and that according to the best standards of the American Library Association library facilities should be available within a half a mile of every home.

The past year shows progress in the improved quarters for the Chevy Chase and Tenleytown subbranches and in the establishment of a subbranch in the Eastern High School and in the provision for a subbranch in the Conduit Road School.

The library trustees in their report comment on the salutary results of the reclassification legislation, including the Welch amendatory act and the effect of the provision for increments in the reduction of

¹ Does not include outstanding obligations.

staff turnover, in the raising of standards for appointment and promotion and the resulting improvement in service. The library has through these improvements been able to secure specialists in the literature of various fields of knowledge who are meeting with real understanding the reading problems of inquirers. Advisers are available in the fields of history, biography, pedagogy, literature, fine arts, technical, and children's literature.

PLAYGROUNDS

Twenty-eight municipal playgrounds were in operation for the full 12 months, together with one play station and a recreation center at the Children's Hospital, all with supervision. Forty school grounds were open during the summer and 12 of these remained open daily after school during the school term, both fall and spring, so that the number of recreation centers open at any one time varied from 70 during the summer, 42 in the fall and spring to 30 in January and February. The department also has had under its supervision the four concrete tennis courts on the cover of the Reno Reservoir in Tenleytown, the three municipal swimming pools on the Monument Lot, three playground swimming pools, and five wading pools.

The athletics of the public elementary schools of the District were played off on the municipal playgrounds as usual, where teams representing the school in track, baseball, and soccer for boys; basketball and schlag ball for girls, played for the division and city championship. These contests were organized and supervised by the playground director, and all balls, bats, and athletic goods were furnished by the municipal playground department.

An intensive athletic program has been launched on every playground for both boys and girls. In the schedule of different activities care is taken to adapt the events to the strength of those taking part. It is the policy of the department to employ only experienced instructors or those who have had training for the work.

During the past spring there was held a training class for recreation workers from the middle of March to the end of June, the usual program of games, sports, and handwork was given. Each member of the class was required to volunteer for a time on the playgrounds in addition to the regular course of instruction. From this class about 50 who showed an aptitude for the work were chosen on the teaching staff of the summer school playgrounds. Others employed were regular physical training teachers and those who had done playground work either here or in other cities.

On playgrounds instruction is given during the summer in many kinds of handwork as needlework, paper furniture, small garments, basketry of various sorts of reed, raffia, and splint. Each playground has an exhibit of these articles at the end of the summer and the mothers and neighborhood friends are invited to view the work.

The municipal playgrounds are open during the summer months from 9 a. m. until 7 p. m. The school grounds are open from 10 a. m. to 6 p. m., except during the term of the summer coaching school when these grounds are open from 1 to 6 p. m. The daily schedule while school is in session is from 11.45 a. m. until dusk. On Saturdays and during the Easter and Christmas vacation the grounds are open from 9 a. m. to 4.30 p. m. The school grounds that are open daily after school during the school term, fall and spring, have supervision from 3 to 6 p. m.

The number of men carried on the labor roll has been greatly reduced, the surfacing, grading, and drainage of the grounds has been done by the District of Columbia repair shop under the direction of the inspector of playgrounds. This has been very satisfactory.

Baseball diamonds, basketball courts, tennis courts, and soccer fields have been laid out and new pieces of apparatus installed. All apparatus has been kept in repair and periodically inspected as to safety. Care is taken to detect any defective part before a break occurs. Worn basketballs, footballs, volley balls, and soccer and baseballs are mended and used again on the grounds.

The municipal bathing pools at Seventeenth and B Streets SW. were opened June 1 and closed September 17. The pools were open 12 hours daily except Sundays and the same schedule that has been used for several years past was used again as follows: 6 a. m. to 9 a. m. mixed swimming, from 9 a. m. to 3.30 p. m. children only; 4 p. m. to 6 p. m. adults only; on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays the pools were used by women and girls and on alternate days by the men and boys. Free swimming classes for children each half hour from 9.30 a. m. to 3.30 p. m. In addition to elementary swimming there were classes in life saving. The total number of those availing themselves of the free privileges of the pools during the season was 91,796.

The three playground swimming pools at Georgetown, Thirty-third and Volta Place; Rosedale, Seventeenth and Kramer Streets NE.; and Howard, at Fifth and W Streets NW. will each accommodate 100 bathers at a time. Each pool holds 96,000 gallons of water, which is filtered, and the pools are constructed in such a way that an overflow of water is always going off while the pools are in use; each night they are emptied and scrubbed. The pools were opened on June 23 and closed on September 17. Georgetown and Rosedale pools were open from 9 a. m. until 6 p. m. daily; Georgetown for men and boys on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and for women and girls on alternate days, with an attendance of 23,924. Rosedale was open for men and boys on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, and for women and girls on alternate days with an attendance of 35,761. Howard pool for colored ran on a schedule similar to that at Rosedale, except that the pool was open 12 hours each day, from 6 a. m. until 9 a. m. mixed swimming for adults, with an attendance of 40,278. Attendance at the three pools for the season was 99,963.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

As of June 30, 1928, the total personnel of the police department, including civilian employees, was 1,413, classified as follows:

Major and superintendent.....	1
Assistant superintendents.....	2
Inspectors.....	4
Captains.....	14
Lieutenants.....	22
Sergeants.....	56
Privates.....	1, 186
Total, regular force.....	1, 285
Privates (street railway crossing force).....	63
Civilian employees.....	65

Grand total, Metropolitan police department..... 1, 413

In this, as in all other police departments, the assignment of a certain number of men to specialized tasks is essential to the efficient operations of the force and to the rendition of a proper and effective measure of police service to the general public. As of June 30, 1928, there were 298 such special duty and detail assignments, classified as follows:

LIEUTENANTS

Assistant to administrative assistant superintendent.....	1
Liason officer with the Civil Service Commission.....	1
Night inspection service.....	2
Total.....	4

SERGEANTS

Night inspection service.....	2
In charge of motor vehicle service shop.....	1
In charge of traffic repair shop.....	1
In charge of storeroom.....	1
In charge of hack-inspection service.....	1
In charge of central telephone bureau, detective bureau.....	1
In charge of special squads for enforcement of liquor and gambling laws.....	2
Special investigation, traffic bureau.....	1
Total.....	10

PRIVATES, CLERICAL ASSIGNMENTS

Traffic Bureau:	
Clerks, station.....	3
Clerks, record.....	3
Clerks, general clerical work.....	3
Total.....	9

Detective Bureau:	
Clerks, station.....	4
Clerks, auto squad.....	1
Clerks, record of arrests bureau.....	3
Clerks, bureau of identification.....	2
Clerks, office of chief of detectives.....	1
Clerks, bureau of lost and stolen property.....	2
Clerks, central telephone bureau.....	1
Total.....	14

Police Headquarters:	
Clerks, personnel office.....	2
Clerks, uniform board.....	2
Clerks, assistant to property clerk.....	1
Clerks, storeroom.....	3
Clerks, file.....	1
Clerks, pay roll, equipment, etc.....	2
Total.....	11

Police precincts: Clerks, station.....	47
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PRIVATES ASSIGNED AS PATROL DRIVERS

Major and superintendent's automobile.....	1
House of detention vehicles.....	2
Emergency reserve units.....	6
Police court van.....	1
At precincts and bureaus.....	44
Total.....	54

PRIVATES, MISCELLANEOUS ASSIGNMENTS

Highway Bridge over Potomac River.....	3
Municipal Building (outside).....	1
Patrol signal system (all stations).....	42
Photographers, detective bureau.....	2
Examiners for permits at traffic bureau.....	8
Traffic posts (8 hours each).....	23
Union station (8 hours each).....	6
Railroad station, Seventh and Virginia Avenue SW.....	1
Motor vehicle service shop.....	8
Special squads for enforcing the liquor and gambling laws.....	7
Enforcing liquor laws in precincts.....	15
Assistant hack inspectors.....	3
Precinct detectives.....	14
Police court van (guard).....	1
Disbursing office (guard).....	1
Tax collector's office (guard).....	1
Police court (outside).....	1
Police court (in cell room).....	1
Police court (assistant corporation counsel's office).....	3
United States attorney's office.....	2
Sanitary officer.....	1
House of detention (guards).....	4
Printer, Daily Bulletin.....	1
Total.....	149
Grand total.....	298

For the 24 hours ended at 8 o'clock a. m., July 1, 1928, there were available a total of 638 men for actual patrol duty, 62 members of the force being absent on account of illness, 80 absent on annual leave, 5 under suspension, 158 on day off under the provisions of certain legislation providing that each member of the force shall have one full day of 24 hours in each week of 7 days in lieu of Sunday.

The figure as to members of the force actually on patrol duty for the 24 hours ended at 8 o'clock a. m., July 1, 1928, is fairly representative of the total patrol force for any 24 hours during the year, and when it is considered that this total force is divided into three sections, each performing a tour of duty of 8 hours, it will be seen that only 213 men are actually on patrol duty at a given time, affording police protection and service to a population of over half a million people in an area of approximately 70 square miles.

DISCIPLINE

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 1928, trial board proceedings were instituted in 390 cases with the following results:

Dropped either during or at the expiration of the probationary year for unsatisfactory service.....	1
Charges dismissed.....	93
Fined.....	166
Removed.....	20
Reprimanded and warned.....	9
Required to pay debt.....	34
Warned.....	65
Findings of trial board reserved.....	2
Total.....	390

ACTIVITIES OF THE FORCE

The police superintendent reports a total of 102,933 arrests for the fiscal year, an increase of 11,570 arrests as compared with the previous year.

Of the total arrests, 5,113 were for the commission of felonies, an increase of 674 as compared with the previous year, and 97,820 for misdemeanors, an increase of 10,986 as compared with the previous year.

VICE REPRESSION

The following statistics submitted by the superintendent of police indicate clearly that the police department continues its active campaign against gambling and vice:

	1927	1928	Increase	Decrease
Adultery.....	166	161	-----	5
Fornication.....	874	659	-----	215
Keeping bawdyhouse.....	6	1	-----	5
Keeping disorderly house.....	245	302	57	-----
Pandering.....	2	2	-----	-----
Soliciting prostitution.....	151	103	-----	48
Vagrancy.....	632	832	200	-----
Violation of white slave traffic law.....	17	19	2	-----
Making handbook races.....	47	45	-----	1
Setting up gaming table.....	128	188	60	-----
Permitting gambling.....	451	539	88	-----
Violation of antinarcotic law.....	56	36	-----	20
Total.....	2,775	2,888	407	294

ENFORCEMENT OF LIQUOR LAWS

It is most gratifying to the commissioners to note that the police department has in no measure relaxed in its efforts to bring about the fullest possible measure of enforcement of the various liquor laws. The activities of the department in this respect are set forth in the following comprehensive table showing the work of the department for the fiscal year 1928, with comparative figures for the four preceding fiscal years:

	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928
Volstead law:					
Conspiracy to defeat the Volstead law.....	46	48	22	12	10
Illegal possession of liquor.....	1,628	2,949	2,943	2,820	3,614
Selling liquor.....	1,395	1,452	1,070	1,018	1,556
Transporting liquor.....	890	1,181	1,158	983	825
Maintaining a nuisance under the Volstead law.....	23	28	21	4	12
Destroying evidence in liquor cases.....	16	7	3	0	7
Manufacturing liquor.....	26	41	102	53	59
Illegal possession of still.....	3	9	31	9	20
Miscellaneous offenses.....	12	40	4	0	9
Total arrests for Volstead law.....	4,239	5,755	5,354	4,899	6,142
Sheppard law:					
Intoxication.....	8,874	10,869	12,891	13,588	13,736
Operating a vehicle while intoxicated ¹	655	712	770	40	26
Drinking in public.....	186	232	161	115	131
Total arrests for Sheppard law.....	9,715	11,813	13,822	13,743	13,953

¹ Operating a motor vehicle while drunk is carried under traffic regulations.

	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928
Seizures under Volstead Act:					
Alcohol.....gallons.....	1, 571	2, 478	1, 058	602	1, 896
Brandy.....do.....	22	75	392	391	518
Benedictine.....do.....	0	4	5	0	0
Champagne.....do.....	7	6	13	39	6
Cognac.....do.....	5	73	25	38	0
Cordials.....do.....	75	0	0	0	0
Gin.....do.....	1, 083	573	271	203	273
Rum.....do.....	11	27	8	6	51
Whisky.....do.....	7, 885	13, 685	20, 966	23, 916	21, 057
Creine de menthe.....do.....	0	0	0	8	6
Vermuth.....do.....	0	0	0	2	0
Cider.....do.....	1, 596	4, 088	728	100	223
Wine.....do.....	2, 086	887	2, 158	261	1, 619
Total liquor seized.....do.....	14, 341	21, 896	25, 624	25, 566	25, 549
Beer.....barrels.....	0	20	27	0	0
Beer.....gallons.....	0	0	1, 196	82	80
Beer.....bottles.....	4, 162	4, 485	5, 130	13, 420	19, 048
Extracts.....do.....	448	745	414	72	0
Mash.....gallons.....	2, 520	7, 347	51, 200	47, 352	74, 148
Stills.....do.....	26	54	114	95	116
Vehicles:					
Bicycles.....	3	1	6	13	8
Motor vehicles.....	145	301	413	555	471
Wagons.....	2	3	8	6	1
Total vehicles seized.....	150	305	427	574	480

ACTIVITIES OF DETECTIVE BUREAU

The addition of 10 detective sergeants to the personnel of the detective bureau as of July 1, 1927, made possible the organization of additional special squads, namely, the homicide and safe squad, the clothing squad, and the bad-check squad, and the results obtained have amply justified the organization of such squads.

Members of the detective bureau made 4,158 arrests during the fiscal year and recovered property valued at \$553,966.18.

The automobile theft problem has become a matter of grave concern to the police administrations of all American cities. To such an extent has this type of theft grown in the District of Columbia that it has been found necessary to assign five detective sergeants to the special task of investigating such thefts in the District of Columbia, and the record established by this squad is evidenced by the following figures:

Number of automobiles reported stolen.....	4, 166
Recovered by automobile squad, detective bureau.....	1, 078
Recovered by precincts and owners.....	2, 761
Total recovered.....	3, 839
Automobiles reported stolen not as yet recovered.....	327
Arrests by automobile squad.....	639
Convictions.....	320
Cases nolle prossed.....	52
Cases dismissed.....	136
Cases pending.....	131
Total.....	639
Value of property recovered by the automobile squad, \$431,102.30.	

BUREAU OF CRIMINAL IDENTIFICATION

This bureau is a subbureau of the detective bureau and operates under the supervision and command of the assistant superintendent in charge of such bureau.

The following is a statement of the work accomplished by this bureau during the fiscal year:

Prisoners photographed, measured, and finger printed.....	2, 220
Scenes of crime photographed.....	49
Scenes of accidents photographed.....	4
Unknown dead photographed.....	7
Photographs of criminals copied.....	73
Photographs of missing persons copied.....	5
Fraudulent checks, signatures, etc., photographed.....	10
Miscellaneous subjects photographed.....	76
Scenes of crime inspected for finger-print evidence.....	385
Number of scenes at which finger prints were found.....	99
Total photographs made:	
Small size.....	6, 249
Large size.....	303
Photographs from other jurisdictions added to bureau.....	2, 641
Finger-print records added to bureau.....	5, 434
Identifications made.....	808
Photographs and finger prints forwarded to other jurisdictions.....	1, 024
Identifications made by the United States bureau.....	99
Identifications made by other bureaus.....	188

SANITARY BUREAU

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 1928, 447 persons were taken into custody by the police and held for mental observation; 130 of this number were certified as insane, 283 were turned over to friends or discharged, 1 died, and 33 cases are still pending.

TRAFFIC BUREAU

The personnel of the traffic bureau as of July 1, 1928, was as follows:

Inspector.....	1
Lieutenant.....	1
Sergeants.....	6
Special street railway crossing policemen.....	63
Privates.....	44
Civilian employees.....	3

Perhaps the most important function of the traffic bureau is the examination of all applications for permits to operate motor vehicles in the District of Columbia, and the extent to which this work is growing each year is evidenced by the following figures:

Fiscal year ended June 30, 1927, applications received.....	30, 434
Fiscal year ended June 30, 1928, applications received.....	44, 682
Increase.....	14, 248

As an evidence of the care exercised in the granting of permits, it is interesting to note that during the year 12,225 applications to operate motor vehicles in the District of Columbia were disapproved after examinations and tests.

The bureau also operates a free headlight-testing station, and during the year 8,462 such tests were made.

ACCIDENTS AND CASUALTIES

The department reports 88 traffic deaths during the year, as against 78 for the preceding year; 2,393 persons sustained injuries as a result of traffic accidents.

WOMAN'S BUREAU AND HOUSE OF DETENTION

During the fiscal year the woman's bureau dealt with cases actually involving 842 defendants.

Admissions to the house of detention during the year totaled 2,877, classified as follows:

	White	Colored	Grand total
Under 17 years of age:			
Males.....	442	724	-----
Females.....	88	129	-----
Total.....	530	853	1,383
Between 17 and 21: Females.....	112	147	259
21 years and over: Females.....	443	792	1,235
Grand total.....			2,877

The superintendent of police in his annual report presents figures representative of the total patrol force available for a period of 24 hours, from which figures it is indicated that only 213 men are on patrol duty at any one given period.

THE DIRECTOR OF TRAFFIC

Traffic accidents continued to show improvement during the past year notwithstanding the increase in the number of cars and drivers.

There were 4,138 accidents reported during the year, as compared with 5,911 during 1927, 8,049 during 1926, and 9,378 during 1925. In other words, since 1925 accidents have been decreased about one-half.

Of the total number of accidents during the past year, 2,386 resulted in personal injuries, as compared with 2,892 during 1927.

A tabulation of these accidents for the calendar years 1926 and 1927 follows:

Street	1926	1927	Street	1926	1927
Fourteenth Street.....	322	151	Ninth Street.....	85	92
Pennsylvania Avenue.....	256	226	Q Street.....	85	35
Connecticut Avenue.....	251	181	G Street.....	84	43
M Street.....	219	137	H Street NE.....	80	23
Sixteenth Street.....	159	50	Sixth Street.....	76	30
Thirteenth Street.....	156	109	Pennsylvania Avenue SE.....	75	35
Seventh Street.....	149	110	Eye Street.....	73	16
Seventeenth Street.....	148	43	R Street.....	71	40
Georgia Avenue.....	112	170	E Street.....	65	30
Wisconsin Avenue.....	108	114	Rhode Island Avenue.....	60	25
H Street.....	102	52	North Capitol Street.....	58	16
Eighteenth Street.....	101	34	New York Avenue.....	56	49
K Street.....	97	61	Thirty-second Street.....	56	23
Florida Avenue.....	95	50	Florida Avenue NE.....	54	21
L Street.....	90	22	Maryland Avenue.....	51	14
Fifteenth Street.....	90	48	Columbia Road.....	38	36
F Street.....	88	73	Rhode Island Avenue NE.....	37	32
Massachusetts Avenue.....	87	49	K Street NE.....	33	13
Fourteenth Street SW.....	86	37	Bladensburg Road NE.....	29	15

The reduction in the number of accidents on Fourteenth Street and on a number of other important streets during 1927 is due to the erection of "stop" signs and to the vigorous enforcement of traffic laws and regulations. The remarkable reduction of accidents on Sixteenth Street and on Massachusetts Avenue is largely due to the traffic-light signals and to better observance of the amber light following a red light.

Studies are now in progress to determine why accidents increased on Georgia Avenue, Wisconsin Avenue, and Ninth Street with a view to determining the proper remedy to reduce accidents on these thoroughfares.

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 1928, a total of 89 persons were killed in traffic accidents as compared with 78 during 1927, 82 during 1926, and 86 during 1925. Of the total number killed during 1928, 78 were caused by automobiles, 8 by street cars, 2 by bicycles, and 1 by motor cycle.

A total of 64 (72 per cent) of the persons killed were pedestrians who were struck by vehicles and that 25 (28 per cent) of the fatalities were due to collision and noncollision accidents.

Of the total number of fatalities 7 were under 14 years of age and 13 were over 65. Sixty-nine persons killed were white, 19 colored, and 1 Chinese.

Of the persons killed 62 were males and 27 females. All of the drivers involved in traffic fatalities during the past year were males, of which 73 were white, 11 colored, and 5 unknown.

Verdicts of the coroner's juries involving traffic fatalities during the past year were as follows:

Accidental.....	63
Held for grand jury.....	15
Carelessness of deceased.....	5
Killed by unknown driver.....	5
No inquest—driver killed.....	1

Of the total number of cases held for the grand jury 13 have been ignored, 1 is still held for trial, and 1 was tried and found not guilty.

Of all traffic fatalities which occurred in Washington during the fiscal year 1928 no convictions have been obtained in the courts on manslaughter or criminal negligence charges.

Based on traffic fatalities per 100,000 population, Washington continues to occupy a favorable position as compared with other cities throughout the United States. Traffic fatalities in Washington during the 52 weeks ended June 16, 1928, amounted to 15.4 per cent per 100,000, which is lower than any other city having a population equal to or greater than Washington.

Arrangements have been made and material purchased for the installation of flashing beacons to be attached to the columns of the approach side of the following viaducts: Water Street SW., H Street NE., K Street NE., L Street NE., M Street NE., Florida Avenue NE., and Rhode Island Avenue NE.

Full and complete cooperation of the police department has been received in traffic law enforcement during the year. Arrests for various traffic offenses have increased from 36,128 during the fiscal year 1927 to 42,621 during 1928.

The traffic shop, which is operated by this department in cooperation with the police department, during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1928, erected 13,031 signs of various classes.

During the year 120,617 feet of white lines have been painted in connection with crosswalks and safety zones, 383 stanchions erected, 3,850 lanterns placed to indicate obstructions in the street, and 44 semaphore lamps replaced.

All the signs and stanchions with a few exceptions were made in the traffic shop.

Provision should be made for an annual traffic survey, in order that this department be informed regarding the traffic flow on the different streets.

During the past year a certificate of title law for automobiles was drafted. The commissioners recommend that such a law be adopted.

The District of Columbia is surrounded by States which have laws providing that every motorist shall provide himself with a certificate of title to his automobile before it can be registered. Over one-half of the States now have such laws, and the District of Columbia is under obligation to the near-by States to enact certificate of title laws at the earliest possible date in order that the District of Columbia may not continue to be a dumping ground for stolen automobiles.

The traffic act should be so amended as to provide that operators of motor vehicles involved in an accident resulting in death, personal injury, or property damage to the apparent extent of \$25 or more, shall within 24 hours make a report of such incident to the police precinct in which the accident occurred. Under the existing act all persons involved in an accident must stop and give their name, etc., before proceeding. There is nothing in the act requiring that accidents be reported, and consequently many serious accidents occur on which there are no records. As the present act is worded it is doubtful whether a regulation covering this point would be construed as legal.

The maximum penalty for third-offense speeding should be limited to offenses committed within a period of one year, and it should be left to the discretion of the court whether the offender should be sent to jail in addition to being fined.

A jail sentence is now compulsory for all third offenses of speeding, even though these offenses are 5 or 10 years apart. Under the present law it is difficult to secure convictions on third offenses of speeding, because juries and judges apparently feel that a compulsory jail sentence in some cases is too severe.

For first-offense driving while intoxicated and second-offense reckless driving the court should be allowed to exercise a greater degree of discretion than under the present act. It is recommended that on first-offense driving while intoxicated and second-offense reckless driving it should be left to the discretion of the court whether the defendant is to be sent to jail or fined, but that in all subsequent cases the jail sentence should apply.

Owing to the compulsory jail sentence for convictions of driving while intoxicated and second-offense reckless driving nearly all offenders arrested on these charges ask for jury trials, and experience has shown that it is difficult to secure convictions on account of the compulsory jail sentence. It is believed that the ends of justice would be served if heavy fines were imposed for first offenses and the permits canceled as now provided by law, and that the present maximum penalty apply only to repeaters.

Section 6, paragraph (c) of the traffic act should be amended to provide that the director of traffic be authorized to place signs upon public highways and other public spaces in the District of Columbia as a guide to the particular thing permitted or prohibited at the particular location, and that failure to obey instructions placed on an official sign shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$25. Under the existing act temporary signs, such as must be placed on the street by the police department in connection with funerals, parades, funerals, weddings, or fires are not legal, and neither the police nor the courts can enforce them, because the act provides that a sign placed on the street is a notice of a regulation. It is practically impossible to pass regulations which would cover all these situations and secure their enforcement in the courts under the existing act.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE LOSS

The estimated fire loss during the year amounted to \$1,101,164. This is a decrease of \$46,340 from the amount of loss experienced in 1927.

ALARMS OF FIRE

The number of alarms of fire received during the year, 3,704, represents an increase of 616 over the number received during the preceding year. False alarms decreased, 300 being recorded.

FIRE PREVENTION

Inspection work and supervision over the storage and handling of highly combustible materials has been continued. The good results obtained from these activities are far-reaching, and assist in no small measure in reducing the fire waste. There were 198,096 fire-prevention inspections made during the year.

DISCIPLINE

Three members of the department were removed during the year for violation of the rules and regulations. Serious infractions were few in number, and the conduct of the men was uniformly excellent.

PENSIONS

Twelve officers and members of the department were retired and granted relief. Widows' pensions were granted in nine cases.

NEW APPARATUS

Three triple combination pumping engines, 2 combination hose wagons, 2 aerial ladder trucks, and 4 chief's cars were received and placed in service during the year.

RESCUE SQUADS

Rescue Squad No. 1, placed in service in 1925, continues to demonstrate its efficiency, and its activities have been greatly increased during the year.

It responded to 466 alarms of fire during the year; was used as an ambulance upon 13 occasions; its officers and members rendered first aid for incised wounds 14 times; for burns, 9 times; for drowning, 3 times; for cave-ins, 5 times; for gas poisoning, 83 times. Artificial respiration was administered on 35 occasions.

Rescue Squad No. 2 (engine company No. 11), placed in service on June 18, 1927, was given a regular running district on November 11, 1927. This squad has also demonstrated its efficiency since being placed in service.

It responded to 35 local alarms during the year; was used as an ambulance upon 3 occasions; its officers and members rendered first aid for incised wounds 4 times; for burns, 4 times; overcome by smoke, 2 times; overcome by ammonia fumes, once; for gas poisoning, 18 times; for drowning, 3 times; for cave-ins, once. Artificial respiration was administered on 14 occasions.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

POPULATION

According to the estimate of the United States Bureau of the Census, the population of the District of Columbia is given, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1928, as 540,000. Four hundred and three thousand eight hundred were white and 136,200 colored. The statistical data given in the report is based on this estimated population.

GENERAL BIRTH AND DEATH RATES

General mortality.—There was a total of 6,987 deaths recorded during the calendar year 1927, a decrease of 401 when compared with the previous year. The general death rate during the calendar year 1927 was the lowest ever recorded in the history of the health department, it being 12.94 each 1,000 of population. The lowest previous record of 13.34 occurred in the calendar year 1921. This reduction in the death rate is most gratifying. Of the 6,937 deaths recorded in 1927, 4,320 were white and 2,667 colored, furnishing a white rate of 10.70 and a colored of 19.58.

The general birth rate, however, remained practically unchanged, there being 9,004 births recorded during the calendar year 1926 and 9,175 during the last year, the birth rate for 1926 being 17.05, while that for the last year was 17.

In considering the most potent causes of death it is found that diseases of the heart rank first with a total of 1,139 deaths, followed by nephritis, with 835; malignant growths, 605; pneumonia, 577; pulmonary tuberculosis, 515; and apoplexy, 471 deaths.

INFANT MORTALITY

The infant death rate, like that of the general death rate, showed a marked decline. In the calendar year 1926 the figures show that of each 1,000 births reported during that year 84.5 infants died under 1 year of age, while in the last calendar year only 66.3 died. This is a very noticeable improvement and I feel justified in calling special attention to the fact. It might be of further interest to state that the white infant death rate was only 47.5 for each 1,000 white babies born in the District. The colored rate was much higher, although that also dropped from 123 in 1926 to 108 in 1927.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES OF ANIMALS

Rabies.—This disease still exists in the District of Columbia, although the records show a marked diminution in the number of animals found suffering from rabies during the calendar year 1927, when compared with the figures of the preceding year. In 1926, 117 dogs were found to be rabid. During the year 1927 only 59 were found. The number of persons bitten by rabid dogs also markedly decreased. During the calendar year 1926, 123 persons were bitten as against 43 last year.

While no such claim is being made, it is, however, felt that possibly the extension of the period, from 3 to 4 months, in the order of the commissioners requiring the muzzling of dogs or holding them in leash while in the public streets, may have had something to do with the improvement noted.

BUREAU OF PREVENTABLE DISEASES

The record shows that contagious diseases as a whole were more prevalent during the year just closed than in the preceding year. This increase is accounted for to a large extent by the epidemic of measles, which resulted in the recording of 3,400 cases of that disease as against 264 during the preceding year. There was also an increase in the number of scarlet fever cases.

Diphtheria.—During the year the department continued its diphtheria-prevention work, so far as its limited appropriation would permit. It is unfortunate that this work is so handicapped for lack of funds.

Typhoid fever.—The situation in the District of Columbia with respect to typhoid fever continues to improve. During the fiscal year just ended 78 cases with 10 deaths were recorded. In 23 instances the infection was definitely traced to sources outside the District of Columbia, and in 25 other instances the infection was probably contracted outside the District. The number of cases reported during the fiscal year just closed represents the smallest number ever recorded in the District.

Smallpox.—There was some increase in the number of cases of smallpox reported during the fiscal year just closed as compared with the figures for the preceding year. The number reported during the fiscal year 1928 totaled 63, with no deaths.

Smallpox hospital.—This institution was in active operation 76 days; during that time 40 patients were cared for. The total number of patient-days service rendered was 476 with an average stay for each patient of 12 days.

Quarantine station.—This institution was in active operation 84 days, caring for 46 inmates, with a total of 167 inmate-days service rendered, the average stay of each inmate being 3 days.

Ambulance service.—During the fiscal year 1926, 834 patients suffering from minor contagious diseases were removed to hospitals for treatment.

It is desired again to call attention to the urgent need for a suitable building, under government control for the treatment of persons suffering from contagious diseases.

Disinfecting service.—The terminal fumigation of premises after contagious diseases has been gradually reduced in number. Gaseous

fumigation has been discontinued in many of the large cities, and it is the intention to discontinue this work in the District of Columbia. It is felt, however, that the change should be brought about gradually, rather than to excite the public by abruptly discontinuing the service.

During the fiscal year just closed 1,013 premises were disinfected for certain contagious diseases as follows: Diphtheria, 254; scarlet fever, 345; smallpox, 30; tuberculosis, 380; poliomyelitis, 2; and epidemic cerebrospinal meningitis, 2.

Public crematorium.—During the fiscal year 590 bodies were cremated, 27 being adults, 137 infants, and 426 stillborn babies.

Bacteriological laboratory.—There was a total of 25,208 specimens examined during the fiscal year, which is an increase of 2,871 over the preceding year. It is difficult to show by figures the amount of extra detail work required in this increased work. During the year a much closer supervision was had over the ice cream sold in this District than heretofore and as a result the general condition of the product has been much improved.

Eleven thousand seven hundred and seventy-six cultures were examined for diphtheria bacillus. Of this number 962 were found to contain that organism. Two hundred and six specimens of blood were tested by the "Widal reaction" for the diagnosis of typhoid fever and 37 found to be positive.

Bathing pools.—These pools have been kept under close supervision throughout the year. The general condition of the water in these pools has been quite satisfactory as shown by bacteriological examination of samples of the water taken at frequent intervals.

Wells and water supply.—A greater number of specimens of drinking water was examined during the year than in any previous year in the history of the laboratory. It is felt that this is important work and is given close attention.

Milk and cream.—There were 594 more samples of milk and cream examined during the year than in the preceding year.

Ice cream.—Sixteen hundred and forty-two samples of ice cream were collected and examined, an increase of 1,486 over the preceding year.

Serological laboratory.—Five thousand nine hundred and eighty specimens of blood were examined for the complement fixation test; 1,636 gave a positive reaction for syphilis, or about 27 per cent. One thousand three hundred and forty-eight "smears" were examined for "gonorrhea" and 505, or about 37 per cent, found to be positive.

Chemical laboratory.—There was a total of 17,667 specimens of all kinds examined during the fiscal year, divided as follows: Milk, 15,388; cream, 486; buttermilk, 12; ice cream, 1,567; water, 128; drugs, 6; other foods, 28; and miscellaneous, 2.

In addition to the above, 31 examinations were made for the police department, 13 for the coroner, and 6 for other branches of the District government.

DISPENSARIES

Tuberculosis division.—The health department was forced during the fiscal year to vacate the building formerly occupied by it for dispensary purposes at No. 409 Fifteenth Street NW. The building was torn down in connection with the large building program of the

Federal Government. No other provision having been made, the tuberculosis dispensary was removed to a small frame structure adjacent to the Tuberculosis Hospital, and the venereal disease dispensary was removed to very inadequate quarters at the Gallinger Hospital. The forced removal of these two dispensaries resulted in a falling off of the number of patients attending these clinics. However, during the fiscal year 1928, 1,194 new patients applied for examination and treatment at the tuberculosis clinic. Of the number examined 221 were definitely found to have tuberculosis, and in a large number of cases the diagnosis was not definitely made.

The total number of visits made to the dispensary by all the patients was 5,568. The nurses also made 5,337 visits to the homes of patients.

Venereal disease division.—The number of new cases applying for examination or treatment during the fiscal year was 1,917, a decided falling off when compared with the figures for the preceding year. This decline was due, as previously mentioned, to the forced removal of the clinic to Gallinger Hospital. Of these 1,917 new cases 445 were white and 1,472 colored. Three thousand nine hundred and ninety-nine salvarsan and 5,574 mercury injections were given for the treatment of syphilis.

The total number of visits made to the dispensary by all patients was 14,676. Three hundred and nine of all cases treated were under 15 years of age, 19 of them being less than 5 years.

MEDICAL AND DENTAL INSPECTION OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS

That the medical and dental inspection in the public schools is a very important branch of the health department's activities, and that the personnel employed in the service is very inadequate has repeatedly been pointed out. The health officer again recommends that serious consideration be given to this subject by the commissioners and every effort made to secure a more liberal appropriation so that the service may function with greater efficiency. A larger number of dental clinics are also badly needed.

The total number of physical examinations or inspections made during the school term by the 12 medical inspectors now employed was 60,311. This number includes 4,457 pupils in the first grade and kindergarten classes, and also 3,259 in other grades who were given complete physical examinations.

Six hundred and ninety-seven applicants for teaching positions, 691 for work permits, and 280 for admission to the normal schools, making a total of 9,384 complete physical examinations made during the school term. Three thousand one hundred and four pupils were excluded for various causes during the school term.

Four thousand seven hundred and one kindergarten and first-grade pupils were examined and 91.1 per cent found to have some physical defect; however, many of these defects were of more or less minor importance and can easily be corrected. The defects found in this group were defective teeth, 61 per cent; diseased tonsils, 45.6 per cent; enlarged cervical glands 25.1 per cent; poor nutrition, 10.8 per cent; anæmia, 9.9 per cent; chronic nasal catarrh, 6.8 per cent; skin and parasitic diseases, 4.7 per cent; orthopedic defects, 3.8 per cent; nervous system, 3.8 per cent; pulmonary diseases, 3.5 per cent;

defective speech, 2.5 per cent; deficient hearing, 1.9 per cent; cardiac diseases, 1.9 per cent; eye diseases, 1.6 per cent; crossed eyes, 1 per cent; hernia, 0.9 per cent; and discharging ears, 0.5 per cent.

During the school term 2,028 pupils were immunized against diphtheria. The school inspection service was assisted in this work by a representative of the United States Public Health Service.

Dental inspectors examined 21,499 pupils and 977 applicants for teaching positions and for admission to the normal schools, making a total of 22,476 examinations.

The dental operators treated a total of 4,493 pupils during the school term, and in 78.5 per cent the pupils had all dental work completed.

School nurses handled a total of 17,097 pupils.

FOOD INSPECTION

The total number of food producing and vending establishments registered at the close of the fiscal year was 4,355. Each of these establishments was inspected on an average of 21.16 times during the year. Seven thousand six hundred and nine inspections of dairy farms located outside of the District of Columbia were made. The total number of inspections of all kinds made by the food-inspection service was 101,033.

One thousand five hundred and sixteen dairy farms authorized to ship milk or cream into the District of Columbia were registered at the close of the fiscal year. These dairy farms were inspected on an average of 5.02 times each during the year.

The total amount of fines and forfeitures collected by the courts for violation of food laws was \$3,056.

SANITARY INSPECTION

The total number of official visits made by the sanitary-inspection service was 90,455. Nuisances were abated in 10,374 instances, and prosecution instituted in 289 instances for violation of sanitary laws and regulations.

In 20 instances nuisances existing on the property of certain non-resident owners were abated by the District and the cost assessed against the property as provided by law.

Manufacture and sale of mattresses.—The total number of establishments where mattresses are manufactured, renovated, or sold registered in this District at the close of the fiscal year was 194. The number of visits made to these establishments was 1,402.

Boarding homes for children.—Two hundred and fourteen of these places were registered at the close of the year, and a total of 1,049 inspections were made.

Pediatric establishments.—One hundred and four persons have qualified and were registered at the close of the fiscal year.

Smoke inspection.—During the year 16,959 observations were made, and as a result 166 cases were referred to corporation counsel for violation of the smoke law. The fines and forfeitures amounted to \$1,590.

Eight-hour female labor law.—One hundred and thirteen complaints were investigated necessitating a total of 2,021 official calls. Twenty-four prosecutions were instituted resulting in fines and forfeitures amounting to \$565.

CHILD HYGIENE SERVICE

The child hygiene service showed a satisfactory growth along all lines during the year. One new station was established at No. 2012 Rhode Island Avenue NE. Two additional nurses and five additional doctors were appointed, and with this increased personnel it was possible to conduct special conferences at all stations for children between two and six years of age, in order to give closer attention to the underweight child. Prenatal work was also started in two of the stations.

The total number of visits made by children to the various stations was 48,258, of which 34,878 were made by white children and 13,390 by colored.

The nurses in this service also made a total of 26,459 visits to the homes of children.

THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WELFARE

The Board of Public Welfare, in its second annual report, reviews the activities of the institutions and agencies of public welfare which are administered under its direction and control.

The care of dependent children under the so-called mothers' pension act has been carried on with encouraging results. The total number of families in receipt of benefits on June 30, 1928, was 124, in which families there was a total of 434 children.

The number of children under the care of the division of child welfare continues to increase, the number under care on June 30, 1928 being 1,772 as compared with 1,718 the preceding year. The number of commitments made to the board by the juvenile court was 688 as compared with 582 during the preceding year. The increased number of dependent children imposes a constantly increasing financial burden for their maintenance and education. The number of commitments to children's institutions, however, has been less than would have been the case if the children had not been committed directly to the Board of Public Welfare. This is noticeably true in the case of the National Training School for Boys, the number of District boys in that school on June 30, 1928, being only 123 as compared with 179 in 1921.

The receiving home for children authorized in the current appropriation bill has, after much searching for a suitable building, been located at 816 Potomac Avenue SE., in a new apartment house building just completed and not heretofore occupied. The home was opened during the latter part of October and the necessary alterations in the building have not yet been completed.

The work of construction on the new building for the Gallinger Municipal Hospital has progressed satisfactorily and assures the completion of the building for occupancy before the end of the current fiscal year. The erection of this building marks the most important single step ever taken for the improvement of public hospital service in the District of Columbia.

Satisfactory progress has been made during the year in the erection of new buildings at the Workhouse and Reformatory and a marked development of the industries of these institutions has occurred during the past year.

The recently installed iron foundry is rendering satisfactory service in the manufacture of large quantities of castings used by the engineering divisions of the District government.

Work is now in progress in the improvement of the brick plant, the transportation system, and in the erection of additional buildings.

At the District Training School for the Feeble Minded the population is now more than 200 and there are many pending applications which can not be considered until additional room is provided by buildings now under construction.

ALIENIST

During the year there were 598 cases examined at St. Elizabeths Hospital. This is 136 cases more than were examined last year. There was committed from the psychopathic ward of the Gallinger Municipal Hospital to St. Elizabeths Hospital 359 cases during the year. For various reasons 189 cases were continued by the court. There were 75 cases examined and committed to the District Training School. This work required 46 days attendance in court on lunacy cases and 13 days attendance in court in the feeble-minded cases and 45 visits to St. Elizabeths Hospital.

VETERINARY SURGEON

The veterinary surgeon reported that during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1928, there was the usual amount of sickness and injuries generally occurring among the number of animals owned by the District of Columbia, but there was no outbreak of contagious disease. All horses and mules reported or found sick were treated either at their stable or at the city refuse hospital stable. Nine horses and mules were transferred from one department to another where their services were more suitable or needed. Twenty horses and mules died of natural causes or were destroyed to prevent suffering, they being incurable and of no further value. Twenty-three horses were sold, they being of no further value to the District. There are now on hand in the veterinary department 387 horses and mules. All dairy stock and hogs at the various institutions are in good health.

BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN VETERINARY MEDICINE

The board of examiners in veterinary medicine reported that during the fiscal year the board held two meetings. At one meeting two applicants applied for a license to practice veterinary medicine in the District of Columbia, one of which failed to pass the requisite examination.

Receipts and expenditures

Balance on hand July 1, 1927.....	\$49. 83	
Receipts.....	20. 00	\$69. 83
Operating expenses.....		5. 85
Balance June 30, 1928.....		63. 98

CORONER

The coroner reports that during the year he made investigations to determine the causes of deaths as follows: From natural causes, 1,263; from violence, 332; by suicide, 115; and homicide, 72; total,

1,782. Also that his office held 192 inquests and 267 autopsies. Eleven hundred and fourteen bodies were received at the morgue.

BOARD OF PHARMACY

Eight regular and three special meetings were held and four regular and one special examinations were given. Seventy-four applicants were licensed after examination and 34 through reciprocity with their respective States. Eighteen permits for the sale of poisons for use in the arts or as insecticides were renewed and two original ones were issued. The register shows the following unrevoked licenses to practice pharmacy in the District of Columbia: Series A, 542; B, 306; C, 630; total, 1,478.

The following report of the financial operations of the board as shown by the books of the treasurer and secretary was verified by your auditor's office and indicate the following:

RECEIPTS

Balance in bank at last audit.....	\$1, 133. 79
Cash on hand.....	67. 50
Total receipts from fees.....	2, 679. 00
	\$3, 880. 29

DISBURSEMENTS

5 members, at \$240 each.....	1, 200. 00
Printing and supplies.....	288. 38
Mimeographing.....	48. 00
Engraving.....	27. 75
Advertising.....	8. 26
Postage.....	30. 00
Clerical work.....	300. 00
Membership dues and books.....	29. 00
Janitor service.....	15. 00
Premium, treasurer's bond.....	5. 09
Expense of delegates to conventions.....	250. 00
Refund of examination fees.....	110. 00
	2, 311. 39

Balance in bank, \$1,449.90; cash on hand, \$119.....	1, 568. 90
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BOARD OF MEDICAL SUPERVISORS

During the fiscal year 1928 the board of medical supervisors examined 154 applicants for license to practice medicine in the District of Columbia, 101 of whom were passed, 1 failed to pass, 2 were withdrawn, and 50 were continued under consideration.

Twenty-four applications for license under the law providing for reciprocity with other jurisdictions were considered, of which 19 were approved and 5 rejected.

Receipts and disbursements

Balance available July 1, 1927.....	\$1, 789. 70
Receipts during fiscal year 1928.....	3, 153. 00
Outstanding check.....	50. 00
	\$4, 992. 70
Disbursements, miscellaneous.....	2, 549. 71
Compensation to members, board of medical examiners.....	500. 00
Compensation to members, board of medical supervisors.....	1, 200. 00
Compensation to secretary-treasurer.....	600. 00
	4, 849. 71
Unexpended balance.....	142. 99

BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1928, the annual registration of dentists and dental hygienists was successfully accomplished and annual certificates for 1928 issued to each. Five hundred and sixty-eight dentists and 28 dental hygienists were registered as of July 1, 1928.

The Annual Bulletin (No. 4) was prepared, printed, and mailed on February 1, to each practitioner registered therein. The list of dentists and dental hygienists contained in this bulletin is kept current for the benefit of the public and the profession.

Examinations were held in January and June, and, as a result, 32 dentists and 3 dental hygienists were passed by the board. Thirteen dentists failed to secure passing marks.

One person was convicted and fined under the act for practicing dentistry without a license. Other cases were investigated, but not sufficient evidence was found to warrant arrest.

The law is very strict with reference to dental advertisements, and close scrutiny has been maintained over those appearing in the press and on display signs over establishments.

More or less regular inspection of dental offices is now possible with the facilities of the board itself and the splendid cooperation of the police department, and it can be confidently stated that sanitary conditions and the personnel of dental establishments are greatly improved over prior years.

Receipts and disbursements

RECEIPTS

Balance of cash on hand July 1, 1927.....		\$155. 51
Certificates.....	\$16. 00	
Annual registration dentists.....	1, 122. 00	
Annual registration oral hygienists.....	56. 00	
Examination dentists.....	970. 97	
Examination oral hygienists.....	30. 25	
Registration penalties.....	45. 00	
Unrecorded receipts.....	3. 00	
		2, 243. 22
		2, 398. 73

EXPENDITURES

Board members' compensation.....	475. 00	
Salary, clerk.....	376. 00	
Printing.....	143. 08	
Paper, supplies, and stamps.....	173. 38	
Telephone.....	23. 24	
National Association of Dental Examiners.....	50. 00	
Bond surety.....	6. 25	
Auditing services.....	5. 00	
Refund of loan to board.....	300. 00	
		1, 551. 95
Balance on hand June 30, 1928.....		846. 78

NURSES' EXAMINING BOARD

The nurses' examining board held 12 meetings during the fiscal year and 2 examinations. Two hundred and twenty-five nurses took the examinations, of which number 204 passed, 60 with honor—that is, with an average of 90 per cent. Twenty-one failed. Twenty-three

nurses were registered through reciprocity and two under waiver, making a total of 229 nurses registered.

There were inspections made of five training schools.

A bill has been introduced into Congress entitled "An act to define the term 'Registered nurse' and to provide for the registration of nurses in the District of Columbia." If this bill should be passed the nurses' examining board would be practically self-supporting and it would not be necessary for the Graduate Nurses' Association to be called upon to make up a deficit each year, as it does now and has had to do for several years.

Receipts and expenditures

RECEIPTS	
Brought forward.....	\$476. 29
Fees collected.....	1, 364. 56
Check from Graduate Nurses' Association.....	488. 84
	\$2, 329. 69
EXPENDITURES	
Members compensation on account 1925-26.....	400. 00
Members compensation on account 1926-27.....	478. 25
Members compensation on account 1927-28.....	1, 045. 10
Stationery and printing.....	134. 00
Engraving certificates.....	105. 50
Stenographer fees.....	5. 00
Registered mail and postage.....	82. 00
Advertising examinations.....	13. 24
Examination paper and certificate tubes.....	20. 00
Fees refunded.....	16. 00
	2, 299. 09
Balance for running expenses.....	30. 69

BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

The board of accountancy held seven formal meetings and one examination during the fiscal year 1928. Thirty-seven candidates were examined and 14 certificates issued.

The receipts and expenditures of the board were as follows:

Receipts:	
Balance on July 1, 1928.....	\$241. 75
Examination fees, 22 at \$25 each.....	550. 00
Certificates, issued under waiver, four at \$25.....	100. 00
Reexamination fees, 15 at \$10 each.....	150. 00
Sales of examination questions.....	18. 00
	\$1, 059. 75
Disbursements:	
Printing for 1928 examination—	
Examinations pamphlets.....	\$53. 75
Examination questions.....	92. 35
	146. 10
Examination supplies.....	22. 20
Office printing and supplies.....	35. 00
Certificates.....	6. 75
Postage.....	8. 00
Stenographic services.....	100. 00
Advertising 1928 examinations.....	39. 24
Allowance to members of board for fiscal year 1927.....	241. 75
Disbursement on July 31, 1928.....	37. 45
	636. 49
Balance on hand June 30, 1928.....	423. 26

BOARD OF OPTOMETRY

During the fiscal year 1928 the board of optometry examined two applicants for registration, only one of whom passed.

Eighteen applicants have thus far passed the standard examination and 83 applicants have passed the limited examination.

Receipts:

Balance on hand July 1, 1927	\$598. 37	
Receipts to July 1, 1928	510. 00	
		\$1, 108. 37

Disbursements:

Bonding secretary	5. 00	
Salary of secretary-treasurer	250. 00	
Newspaper notices	17. 73	
Engrossing certificates	1. 25	
Printing and stationery	20. 00	
Stamps	5. 50	
Registration fees	. 50	
Scholarship fund	100. 00	
Compensation of members of the board at \$25 each	100. 00	
		499. 98
Unexpended balance		608. 39

BOARD OF EXAMINERS AND REGISTRARS OF ARCHITECTS

During the year the board has held 13 meetings and conducted 11 verbal senior examinations, as well as conducted the regular prescribed semiannual written examinations in April and November.

Registration by verbal senior examination has been granted to 11 applicants.

Registration by full written examination has been granted to no applicants and refused to 3.

Registration by partial written examination to those holding degrees in architecture from accredited architectural schools has been granted to 6 applicants and refused to 1.

The Seventieth Congress of the United States passed a bill to amend in certain particulars the original act (Public No. 295, 68th Cong.), which on May 29, 1928, was signed by the President. This amended bill is to be cited henceforth as the "Architects registration act." This amended law contains a provision advancing the time for the filing of affidavits as to prior practice in the District of Columbia to six months after the date of the signing of the bill, i. e., to November 29, 1928. The law as amended is materially strengthened and it is noted that since its enactment certain previous violations have ceased.

This board has retained membership in the National Council of Architecture Registration Boards and from time to time has taken up with the council general matters of policy and has received from it information as to the status of a number of applicants for registration from other States. The annual fee for this membership and service is \$25.

FEES FIXED FOR RENEWALS OF CERTIFICATES

In accordance with the provisions of the act, the board fixed the fee for renewal of certificates at \$10 for the year 1928-29 and the fee for reinstatement of expired certificates at \$11 if the renewal is made in the month of June following the expiration and shall be increased \$1 on the 1st of each calendar month thereafter until \$20 shall have been reached.

Receipts:

Balance in bank July 1, 1927	\$1, 079. 90	
In savings account	500. 00	
Deposits for applications	200. 00	
Deposits for certificates	114. 00	
Deposits for renewals	1, 430. 20	
Interest on	15. 57	
		\$3, 339. 67

Expenditures:

Compensation to board	150. 00	
Correct a deficiency in a deposit	10. 20	
Lettering of certificates	24. 00	
Mimeographing	2. 00	
Miscellaneous—		
Lawyer	\$300. 00	
National Council Architectural Registra-		
tion Board	25. 00	
Locksmith	7. 00	
Keeping treasurer's record	25. 00	
		357. 00
Printing and stationery	70. 48	
Rent of office and telephone advertising	163. 50	
Stenographing	531. 70	
		1, 308. 88
		2, 030. 79

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

The public employment service in the District of Columbia found positions for a large number of applicants for work, as follows:

Clerical and professional	1, 655
Hotel and sales	1, 868
Domestic	13, 953
Skilled and unskilled labor	9, 917
Total	27, 393

COMPENSATION OF INJURED EMPLOYEES

Compensation to injured employees of the District of Columbia through the Employees' Compensation Commission for the year ended June 30, 1928, was provided and disbursed as follows:

RECEIPTS

1928 appropriation	\$15, 000. 00
Expended prior to July 1, 1927	8, 217. 90
Balance July 1, 1927	6, 782. 10
Deficiency, 1928	21, 500. 00
Refunds	277. 05
Total amount available for fiscal year	\$28, 559. 15

EXPENDITURES

City refuse, 152.....	\$3, 461. 88
Surface division, 66.....	1, 277. 70
Sewer division, 31.....	523. 97
Water department, 19.....	721. 55
Public schools, 48.....	196. 16
Welfare division, 15.....	20. 78
District of Columbia repair shop, 26.....	683. 71
Municipal architect, 2.....	. 00
Electrical department, 10.....	68. 67
Trees and parkings, 20.....	119. 23
Plumbing department, 2.....	. 00
Weights and markets, 3.....	. 00
Purchasing office, 1.....	. 00
Police court, 1.....	8. 00
Playgrounds, 4.....	151. 59
License bureau, 1.....	. 00
Public library, 2.....	. 00
Fire department, 2.....	40. 26
Health department, 5.....	. 00
Superintendent of buildings, 4.....	612. 78
Recorder of deeds, 1.....	212. 65
Total temporary injured, 415.....	8, 098. 93
Permanently injured, 6.....	2, 889. 90
Widows (8), dependents (8), 16.....	4, 127. 65
Hospitals.....	7, 512. 60
Doctors.....	3, 197. 00
Nurses.....	2, 555. 00
Artificial limbs.....	177. 68
	\$28, 558. 76
Balance unexpended.....	. 39

Publications issued by the Health Department during the fiscal year

Name of publication	Number printed	Cost of preparation	Cost of printing	Number distributed by mail, messenger, etc.	Cost of distribution
Annual Report, 1927.....	400	Unable to estimate.....	\$1, 109. 84	About 200.....	\$1.25.
Weekly Report.....	150	105 hours, annually, \$1,500; typist, \$70; 105 hours, annually, \$1,020; messenger, \$48; reams paper (47). 30 days per annum, inspector-clerk, \$165.	32. 19	150 weekly.....	\$2.25 per week.
Monthly Bulletin, Grades of Milk.	1, 000		593. 05	1,000 monthly.	\$13.50 per month.

ROADWAY PAVEMENTS

The accompanying table shows the area in square yards of new roadway pavements laid and old roadway pavements resurfaced during the year, with the total in square yards and miles of the various kinds of pavements at the close of the fiscal year.

Comparative statement showing character and extent of roadway pavements

	Existing amount on June 30, 1927		New pavements laid during year (square yards)	Pavements replaced during year (square yards)	Existing amount on June 30, 1928	
	Square yards	Miles			Square yards	Miles
Sheet asphalt and coal tar.....	3, 567, 658	190. 44	32, 988	{ ¹ 5, 138 ² 32, 988}	3, 595, 508	191. 77
Asphalt block.....	593, 991	29. 94		³ 28, 409	532, 594	26. 94
Asphaltic surface.....	221, 886	14. 03	⁴ 43, 850		265, 736	16. 86
Amiesite.....			⁵ 5, 931		5, 931	. 23
Durax block.....	31, 679	1. 13			31, 679	1. 13
Asphaltic or bituminous concrete:						
On concrete base.....	76, 302	4. 28			76, 302	4. 28
On stone base.....	38, 909	2. 16			38, 909	2. 16
Cement concrete.....	916, 350	49. 08	⁶ 269, 539	⁷ 4, 517	1, 181, 372	63. 08
Granite block or rubble.....	248, 856	14. 25		⁸ 7, 382	241, 474	13. 76
Vitrified block.....	17, 390	1. 04			17, 390	1. 04
Cobble.....	36, 374	1. 52			36, 374	1. 52
Macadam (estimated).....	1, 598, 701	107. 41		{ ³ 3, 542 ⁷ 91, 442}	1, 503, 717	102. 95
Gravel and unimproved (estimated)		175. 32				179. 83
Gutters on asphalt streets.....	254, 313		2, 616		256, 929	
Pavements maintained by street railways.....	616, 807				616, 807	
Gutters on asphaltic concrete.....	9, 723				9, 723	
Total.....	8, 228, 939	590. 60	354, 924	173, 418	8, 410, 445	605. 55

¹ Replaced with Amiesite.² Replaced with standard pavement.³ Replaced with asphalt surface.⁴ 13,441 of above asphaltic surface is bessonite.⁵ 793 square yards Amiesite roadway paved under whole cost system.⁶ 16,705 square yards concrete roadway paved under whole cost system.⁷ Replaced with cement concrete.

The sums appropriated for expenditures under this head during the year were as follows:

For repairing old roadway pavements, including asphalt resurfacing.....	\$900, 000
For paving new roadways.....	194, 100
For repairs to suburban roads.....	310, 000
For grading streets, alleys, and roads.....	50, 000
For paving and repaving roadways under the gasoline-tax road and street fund.....	1, 486, 500

The prices paid under contracts for roadway pavements during the year were as follows:

Laying sheet asphalt pavement (2½-inch asphalt surface, 2-inch binder, before compression, with 6-inch concrete base).....	\$2. 48-\$2. 75
Laying vitrified block gutter with 6-inch concrete base.....	2. 48- 2. 75
Laying 6-inch concrete roadway.....	1. 62- 1. 72

The field of activity of the year's work was well balanced. The average of the asphalt pavements resurfaced was in excess of 31 years—a remarkable endurance record. This latter activity comprised 123 items, about half of which were performed by the heater method. The construction of new roadways comprised 84 items, while there were three major and one small roadway widening items.

SUBURBAN ROADS

The maintenance of these roads under the heavily concentrated loads and increased speed of present-day traffic, in comparison with the conditions which they were designed to meet when built, has proved a heavy financial burden. A stronger road, evolved from

the old road as a foundation, or built in place of it on modern design, would be an economical use of funds invested therein.

MUNICIPAL ASPHALT PLANT

During the year the municipal asphalt plant was operated for a period of $251\frac{1}{4}$ days, with a total output of 211,032 cubic feet of asphaltic material, or an average daily output of 840 cubic feet. For the first time since 1914, when the plant was purchased, bids received during the closing days of the fiscal year for the performance of asphalt repairs to roadways were more economical than the costs of such work by the use of the municipal asphalt plant. As a result thereof, by provision of law in such case, this work will be placed under contract and the plant will be held idle, at least during the 1-year term of such contract.

SIDEWALKS AND ALLEYS

Material reduction in demands for new sidewalks but unchanged conditions as to requests for alley paving was in evidence. Of the fund of \$300,000 for these two fields of paving, by far the larger fraction was required for alley paving due to the increased construction of alley garages. The contract prices for sidewalks were \$2 and \$2.17 for those adjacent to paved roadways and \$2.05 and \$2.23 for those adjacent to unpaved roadways.

BRIDGES

The expenditures from appropriation for construction and repair of bridges amounted to \$40,021.04. The reconstruction of the roadway floor of the Highway Bridge over the Potomac River is now in progress. The Virginia abutment of the Chain Bridge over the Potomac River is now being rebuilt. Preparation of plans and specifications for the construction of a new bridge over Rock Creek at M Street have been completed. Contract was executed for a new bridge over Rock Creek at Military Road.

INSPECTION OF ASPHALTS AND CEMENTS

Chemical and physical tests were made of engineer construction material to the amount of 2,642. Approximately 115,437 barrels of various cements were inspected and issued. The samples of asphalt tested covered 434,220 square yards of bituminous pavement. During the year there were 269,539.75 square yards of concrete roadways laid. Approximately 418,778.99 square yards of asphalt mixtures were laid, 15,441.17 of which were asphalt concrete sand topping mixture (Bessonite).

SURVEYOR'S OFFICE

The work of the surveyor's office is divided into three classes:

1. Work performed for private parties for which fees are charged as prescribed by the commissioners.
2. Work for various departments of the Federal and District Governments for which no fees are charged.
3. Work done in connection with condemnation of land for streets, alleys, parks, school and playground sites, etc.

SUBDIVISIONS

There has been a moderate amount of subdivision work during the past year. The decrease in building operations has, of course, affected the subdivision activity, and while there has been a decrease in the number of resubdivisions of existing lots, the large tracts coming in for subdivision have been practically the same in number as during the previous fiscal year.

STREET EXTENSIONS

During the past year 41 streets were affected by condemnation or dedication, portions of which were thereby acquired and placed upon the record books of the surveyor's office, these not including street areas acquired by subdivision.

PARKS

The appropriation for the acquisition of small parks was only \$5,000. This appropriation should be substantially increased.

It is believed that nothing could be done to beautify the city more than the acquisition of these small park areas throughout the entire District of Columbia. One need but observe the use of the circles and reservations within the old city limits to be convinced of the benefits that accrue from these recreational centers. If the appropriation for this purpose is not substantially increased, these beauty spots will be lost.

HIGHWAY PLAN

The past two years will show a large increase in this work, as will be realized from the fact that the total number of plans showing changes in the highway plan, recorded for the past two years, was 51, while for the two years previous only 9 plans were recorded.

CONDEMNATION PROCEEDINGS

During the past year there were 55 condemnation cases pending in court, of which 44 were for streets, parks, school and playground sites, and 11 for alleys. Seventeen cases were confirmed by the court. The total amount awarded as damages for the condemnations confirmed was \$333,184.42, and the total amount assessed as benefits \$36,242.05. This total amount of damages includes the awards in condemnation cases for the acquisition of land for school and playground purposes and also for the third high reservoir, in which cases no assessments for benefits are returnable under the law.

During the past year some of the largest condemnation cases ever prepared were filed in court, notably the opening and extension of Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Nicholson, Peabody, Quackenbos, Sheridan, Tuckerman, and Van Buren Streets, Colorado, Concord, and Luzon Avenues, Fort Drive, and Piney Branch Road through the vast territory lying south of Walter Reed General Hospital. Petitions were also filed for the acquisition of a large territory for an addition to Anacostia Park and for the widening of Benning Road between Fifteenth Street and Anacostia Park.

CLOSING OLD STREETS AND ROADS

The following streets have been closed during the past year under the act of January 30, 1925:

Bell Street running northwesterly from Grant Street NE.

Hoover Road between Twenty-sixth and Otis Streets NE.

Part of Massachusetts Avenue north of Hamilton Circle NW.

Varnell Place between Idaho Avenue and Macomb Street, adjacent to square 1801.

TREES AND PARKING

The number of trees planted along the curbs on the streets in the District of Columbia at the close of the fiscal year was 106,565, a net increase of 1,442 trees. During the fiscal year 2,836 young trees were planted in their permanent positions. The work of extending the tree system in the suburbs and hitherto unplanted localities resulted in 2,381 young trees being planted along many improved thoroughfares. The sum of \$20,504.40 was expended for labor and material to plant trees.

A total of 1,620 trees were removed from public space during the year for various reasons. A majority of these trees stood at the curb line.

The cost of removing 1,221 trees was paid from the appropriation for the trees and parking department at a total cost of \$8,788.27. Twenty-eight trees were removed by private individuals without any cost to the District of Columbia. The cost of other trees removed was paid from the appropriations for other departments and whole cost deposits.

The Fort Dupont and Poplar Point nurseries are well stocked with small trees of the varieties considered best for street planting. It was necessary to purchase 200 Norway maple trees for street planting the past spring, and it will be necessary to purchase from 1,500 to 2,000 trees for street planting during the fiscal year 1929 in an effort to keep pace with the growth of the city and its street improvements. It is believed that in a few years these nurseries will produce all trees necessary to take care of the street planting. One thousand eight hundred and eighty-one Norway maple, 176 red oak, 72 pin oak, 362 sycamore, 1,113 sycamore maple, 185 white oak, 432 sugar maple, and 946 gingko seedlings were transplanted at Fort Dupont nursery, and 2,192 elm, 1,323 sugar maple, and 1,793 sycamore maple seedlings were transplanted at the Poplar Point nursery. The sum of \$8,307.86 was expended for labor, teams, fertilizer, etc., for nursery work, and an additional sum of \$1,169.76 was spent for the employment of a night watchman at the Poplar Point nursery.

During the year 10,593 trees were trimmed at a total cost of \$11,093.10. The removal of broken limbs, trees, etc., from the streets caused by storms resulted in an expenditure of \$1,244.03.

One hundred and two thousand and thirty were sprayed for the extermination of leaf-eating insects at a total cost of \$6,899.84. Eight hundred and fifty pin oak trees were sprayed for the extermination of obscure scale at a total cost of \$198.97.

The cultivation of 11,475 young trees involved the expenditure of \$1,832.59.

The removal of weeds from uninclosed parkings and tree spaces was undertaken at a total cost of \$4,250.26.

The sum of \$1,638.65 was expended in treating the cavities in 41 elm, 1 sugar maple, and 140 linden trees that stood at the curb line and 56 linden trees that stood in the public parking.

The height of 478 retaining walls was passed on, and 735 permits were issued affecting the grade of the parking in connection with building operations in the residential districts.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF CITY REFUSE

For the year just ended the appropriation for street cleaning was \$475,000, and that for the removal of refuse, \$900,000.

In keeping the streets clean flushing was used to a greater extent than heretofore. One of the advantages of this method is the use of these flushers equipped with snowplows to keep the roadways open and passable in time of snow in winter, when it is too cold to flush.

The cost of collecting 72,646 tons of garbage was \$249,131.47, and from this garbage 3,156,000 pounds of grease were produced. The cost of disposal was \$180,053.52, but the revenue from grease sold was \$185,551.13, so that a profit of \$5,497.61 was realized from this source.

At the trash plant the material salvaged sold for \$61,600.90, whereas the cost of disposal was \$98,651.50.

The total receipts this year by this division from all sources were as follows:

Garbage grease	\$185, 551. 13
Salvaged trash	61, 600. 90
Hides (dead animals)	2, 012. 00
Manure	1, 549. 20

The cost of collection and disposal of ashes was \$130,367.21. These ashes are quite valuable for use in grading roadways, and those not used for this purpose were used to fill in low ground.

The number of dead animals collected was 44,976. The cost of this service was \$7,226.12, the net cost after taking into consideration the revenue from the sale of hides being \$5,214.12.

BUILDING OPERATIONS

The estimated value of building operations during the year was \$37,736,170, as compared with the figure given for the fiscal year 1927 of \$49,776,865. While the decrease is evident in so many dollars of construction, yet from an administrative and inspectional standpoint the work has remained about the same. Comparing the amount of building operations for the year 1928 with that of 1924, which is considered normal for building activity within the District of Columbia, shows a decrease of but \$1,667,037.

The number of permits issued was 9,802, as against 10,798 last year, and insignificant decrease of 996. Business buildings numbered 580, whereas there were 699 in 1927. The number of apartments was 59, as against 109, and that of dwellings was 1,539, as compared with 2,477 for the previous year. The total number of new buildings was 2,178 in 1928, as compared with 3,285 in 1927. The number of repairs was 5,019, as compared with 4,926 for the previous year.

There were 2,689 triyearly inspections of elevators, a decrease of 199 compared with last year. Checks totaling \$3,126.25 were re-

ceived paying for 2,501 inspections. There were 1,051 licenses issued to the operators of elevators.

There were 3,179 certificates of occupancy issued, an increase of 308, as compared with the figure of last year of 2,871.

The total number of inspections of fire escapes, apartments, fire equipment, places of public assemblage, entertainments, etc., was 2,990, while the fees collected were \$1,726.

The amount collected in fees from the operation of the building inspection division was \$61,767.75, while the total expenditures, including salaries, was \$109,803.72.

PLUMBING AND PLUMBING INSPECTIONS

The plumbing inspection division made 57,919 inspections during the year. More than half of these inspections were on account of complaints of insanitary plumbing, leaky roofs, defective rain leaders, defective surface drainage, and wet or damp cellars.

The plumbing board held 25 meetings and examined 93 applicants, of whom 25 passed and were granted licenses as master plumbers.

At the close of the year there were 257 registered master plumbers in the District, 199 of them being actively engaged in the business. There were also 5 registered gas fitters.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCE STATIONS

Four public convenience stations were in operation throughout the year. The attendants reported a total patronage for all stations of about 16,000,000. The cash receipts through the use of pay compartments, telephone commissions, public scales, shoe-shining machines, etc., amounted to \$5,803.58, which is about 20 per cent of the cost of the operation of the stations.

INSPECTION OF STEAM BOILERS

Eight hundred steam boilers were inspected by the inspector of steam boilers, including 97 boilers belonging to the District of Columbia. Nine boilers were condemned as unfit for use. The compensation of the inspector of steam boilers is paid from the fees collected from owners, but no fees were received for inspecting boilers owned by the District of Columbia. The total amount of fees reported was \$3,515 and the expense of inspection \$701.25, leaving a net compensation of \$2,813.75 for the inspector.

EXAMINATION OF STEAM ENGINEERS

The board of examiners of steam engineers held 52 meetings and examined 447 applicants, of whom 349 were found competent and 98 incompetent.

CONDEMNATION OF INSANITARY BUILDINGS

During the past fiscal year the board for the condemnation of insanitary buildings held five meetings and served 144 condemnation orders; 551 buildings were examined, of which 166 were razed, 283 repaired, while on 55 no action was taken; 47 cases are pending.

Repairs to an estimated value of \$86,949 were made, and approximately 1,415 persons were benefited by such repairs; 1,555 persons were required to secure other living quarters through action of the board.

CONSTRUCTION OF MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS

During the year 17 buildings were under construction, as follows: Addition to Langley Junior High School, including an assembly hall and gymnasium, which was completed January 14, 1928; bird house, National Zoological Park, which was completed May 15, 1928; addition of gymnasium and assembly hall to the Petworth School, which was completed November 10, 1927; addition of gymnasium and assembly hall to the West School, which was completed January 1, 1928; four-room addition to the Smothers School, including the necessary remodeling of the old building, which was completed December 31, 1927; McKinley High School, including auditorium, gymnasium, and power house, which was completed September 14, 1928; Gallinger Municipal Hospital, which is expected to be completed May 1, 1929; water tower No. 2, which was completed June 24, 1928; Gordon Junior High School, which will be completed about September 20, 1928; eight-room addition to the Barnard School, which was completed September 6, 1928; field house for the Virginia Avenue playgrounds, which was completed May 10, 1928; drill tower, including mechanical equipment, at engine house No. 8, which was completed May 21, 1928; Garnet-Patterson Junior High School, which will be completed about January 15, 1929; Potomac Heights School, four-room extensible building, which will be completed about September 17, 1928; eight-room addition to the Margaret Murray Washington Vocational School, which will be completed about November 17, 1928; District Training School, construction of two additional dormitories, cow barn, hay loft and equipment, implement and tool house, which will be completed about April 15, 1929.

Besides the preparation of plans and specifications for the above-mentioned buildings, plans and specifications for about 50 other pieces of work, such as alterations and repairs to buildings, heating, plumbing, and electrical work, for the various buildings have been prepared in the office of the municipal architect, the contract prices therefor amounting to \$214,975.

The contracts entered into by the office of the municipal architect during the fiscal year amounted to \$1,588,700.43.

REPAIRS TO MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS

All municipal buildings are kept in repair under the direction of the municipal architect.

The appropriations for repair work and the expenditures of some were as follows:

For the repairs and improvements to school buildings and grounds, \$550,000 was appropriated, all of which was expended except \$902.54.

For repairs and improvements to police stations and station grounds \$9,000 was appropriated, all of which was expended except \$1.70.

For repairs and alterations to police court building, \$2,500 was appropriated, all of which was expended except \$233.17.

In addition to the above, repairs were made on various buildings under the supervision of the superintendent of repairs to the amount

of \$66,208.67 out of the appropriations controlled by other departments.

Steam boilers in over 100 District buildings were inspected and repaired.

WORKHOUSE AND REFORMATORY

The principal work done at the workhouse consisted of work on four dormitories, two of which were practically completed, one isolation building practically completed, one brick guard cottage completed, and the installation of two additional heating boilers at the workhouse boiler house.

During the year 4,813,140 bricks were manufactured at the brick plant, and work on improving brick plant was started.

The principal work done at the reformatory consisted of the remodeling of boiler house and installation of four heating boilers, work on the interior of four dormitories on the south side, work on six dormitories on the north side, three of which were practically completed, interior equipment of mess hall installed, drainage system installed to carry off storm water from central court, and rough grading work practically completed over entire building site, construction of foundry building, completion of canning factory, installation of machinery in automobile license shop, and completion of final connection of industrial railroad and putting same in service.

HARBOR FRONT

Washington is at the head of navigation of the Potomac River, about 185 miles from the ocean. The total available water front is about 18 miles, of which about 8 miles has been set aside by the Federal Government for its own use and for park purposes. The greater part of the wharf property under the control of the commissioners is located along the Washington Channel.

The harbor police station and dock, the dock of the fire boat, the District morgue, the municipal fish wharves and market, and the District workhouse and sand wharves are located on the Washington Channel between N Street south and Thirteenth Street west. The balance of the frontage is leased by steamboat companies, boathouses, warehouses, lumber dealers, etc.

The total revenue from the wharf rentals, including the fish market, amounted to \$36,305.89, an increase of \$1,747.44 over the revenues for the last fiscal year.

Appropriations of \$13,000 have been obtained for repairing the harbor precinct dock, the workhouse wharf, and for reconstructing the morgue wharf.

Many of the existing structures along the Washington Channel have reached such a stage of deterioration that shipping interests are not attracted to this port. Several of the wharves have been condemned as unsafe and a further delay in beginning the work of improvement, as is contemplated by law, will unquestionably result in further condemnations and add to the existing dilapidated and unsightly conditions. It is hoped that Congress will soon receive the report for the improvement of this water front, that it will be adopted promptly, and that funds for beginning this much needed improvement will soon be appropriated.

DISTRICT BUILDING

No changes were made in the assignment of rooms in the District Building, because of the overcrowded condition of every department. A recent survey disclosed the fact that there was as little as 61 square feet of floor space per person as compared with 114 square feet in 1922. Necessary repairs were made to the mechanical equipment by the personnel of the power plant, including plumbing throughout the building. A new air compressor for the pneumatic-tube system was installed.

Two thousand three hundred and thirty-seven tons of coal at a total cost of \$13,572.22 was consumed.

Necessary repairs were made to the building, such as doors, locks, windows, blinds, flooring, painting, and varnishing; \$2,821.12 was expended for painting. The board room was completely renovated and two of the corridors painted. The cost of wall and ceiling painting combined average about 11 cents per coat per square yard.

Seven hundred thirty thousand six hundred and fifty kilowatt-hours were generated, of which 546,655 were used for lighting and 183,995 for power.

Numerous replacements and repairs were made to the six passenger and one freight elevators.

MUNICIPAL GARAGE

Fifty-three automobiles were maintained and kept in operation for the various departments of the District government. The labor and mechanical forces were engaged on repairing automobiles, carrying mail, and driving for departments without automobiles or drivers, and greasing, oiling, and washing cars at night. The automobile repair shop, which is located at Second and Bryant Streets NW., is operated in connection with the municipal garage.

Operating costs for the maintenance of the 53 automobiles, including gasoline, oil, tires, labor, and miscellaneous supplies and drivers, amounted to \$21,695.12, or an average of \$409.34 for each car, or \$0.04095 per mile, a saving over last year of \$14.73 per car, or of \$0.0093 per mile.

STREET LIGHTING

There are 26,348 public lamps of all kinds in the avenues, streets, alleys, etc., under the jurisdiction of the Commissioners of the District of Columbia. Of these, 10,016 are gas and 16,332 electric; of the gas lamps, 9,202 are single-burner mantle, 60 candlepower, 557 are double-burner mantle, 120 candlepower, and 257 are small flat flame, 8 candlepower, for designation purposes; of the electric, 1,292 are magnetite arc, 14,650 are incandescent, ranging from 60 to 1,000 candlepower each (41 per cent of 60 and 100), and 390 are incandescent of about 10 candlepower, for "designation."

There was a net increase during the year of 1,375 lamps.

The increase in aggregate candlepower of the street-lighting system under the jurisdiction of the commissioners is from approximately 4,357,000 to approximately 6,037,000, about 38½ per cent. The increase in annual charges is, however, only about 19 per cent. The cost rate, in annual rate charges, on the total installation, was reduced from 13.92 cents to 11.97 cents per candlepower-year.

The total gas lighting has been reduced by nearly 11 per cent, and from about 24 per cent to about $15\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the total candlepower.

The approved project of improved lighting has been further advanced, with continued special attention to arterial highways and to anticipation of paving. Plans are made for comprehensive treatment of areas, as distinguished from through lines of thoroughfare.

Of 6.6-ampere arc lamps (rating 1,120 candlepower and 7.17 cents per candlepower-year), the number in service was increased by 719 to 1,236; of 4-ampere arc lamps (rating 430 candlepower and 14.75 cents per candlepower-year), the number in service was decreased by 333 to 56. The improved arc lamp retains a place not only by reason of its high economy but because its color characteristic is valuable in contrast with that of lighted show windows. Examples of recent arc-lamp installations are: On North Capitol Street, from D Street to Florida Avenue; on Fourteenth Street, from Water Street SW. to Newton Street NW.; on Fifteenth Street NW., from Treasury Place to New York Avenue; and on Seventh Street, from P Street SW. to Florida Avenue NW.

Of incandescent lamps of 1,000 candlepower, 600 candlepower, 400 candlepower, and 250 candlepower combined, the number in service was increased by 3,426; of 100 candlepower and 60 candlepower, decreased by 1,391; net increase, 2,035. Among the prominent items of new incandescent lighting are: (a) Seventeenth Street NW., from B Street to Massachusetts Avenue; (b) Pennsylvania Avenue SE., from Second Street to Commodore Barney Circle; (c) Sixth Street, from Water Street SW. to Florida Avenue NW.; (d) Georgia Avenue NW., from Trumbull Street to New Hampshire Avenue; and (e) Nichols Avenue SE., from Anacostia Bridge to Upsal Street. These illustrate the varying treatment to suit physical conditions, some on new ornamental posts, some applied to existing poles.

Of the mantle gas lamps, the number of single-burner in service was decreased by 838, and of double-burner, decreased by 216; the decrease in mantles was 11.02 per cent, compared with 8.26 per cent in the preceding year, and compared with increases in earlier years.

Of the designation lamps in service, there was a net increase of 74 electric, a decrease of 66 gas; net overall increase of 8. These lamps are used mostly to maintain a red light on post bearing a fire-alarm box.

The claims against certain railway companies for payment of street lighting charges, in accordance with law, have been settled out of court.

SIGNALS SYSTEM—FIRE ALARM, POLICE PATROL, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES

There were 942 fire-alarm boxes in service at the end of the year, 808 on underground and 134 on overhead wires, a net increase of 27 over the preceding year; 3,704 box and local fire alarms (exclusive of "additional" alarms) were received and transmitted during the year, of which 299 were false alarms.

There were 530 police patrol boxes in service at the end of the year, 437 on underground and 93 on overhead wires, an increase of

12 over the preceding year; 3 boxes were changed from overhead to underground connection.

There were 1,820 telephones connected to the District system at the end of year, and 29 in use as portable sets by fire and electrical departments, an increase of 24 in the year.

There was no change in the number of cells of storage battery in service on fire alarm, police patrol, and local circuits, 2,692.

There were, of the distribution equipment of the composite signals system (fire alarm, police patrol, and telephone), at the end of the year a grand total of 8,727 miles of conductor, of which 8,545 are underground and 182 miles overhead, an increase of 478 miles underground and decrease of 8 miles overhead.

REGULATION OF ELECTRIC WIRING

The number of permits issued for installation of electrical wires and apparatus on private premises was 12,639; fees paid to collector of taxes, \$24,390.10; number of inspections recorded, 30,072.

There are of record in streets, avenues, alleys, etc., of the District of Columbia, in the service of the United States, the District of Columbia, and public-service companies, wire-carrying poles to the number of 28,324, of which 761 are Government owned.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM

The construction and maintenance of the sewerage system and the sewage-disposal system of the District of Columbia is placed under a division in charge of the sanitary engineer.

The length of main and pipe sewers constructed during the year was 28.42 miles. The total length of main and pipe sewers on June 30, 1928, was 897.18 miles, of which 173.48 miles are main sewers and 723.7 miles are pipe sewers. In addition to the above new sewer work, 476 storm-water catch basins were constructed, making the total now in service 7,622.

There was expended during the year on new extensions of the sewerage system the sum of \$1,190,913.96 and on the sewage-disposal system \$44,275.90. The total cost of the sewerage system to June 30, 1928, was \$20,372,676.95, and of the sewage-disposal system to the same date was \$6,281,568.50, a total of \$26,654,245.45.

The main sewerage pumping station and three substations were in continuous operation throughout the year and Woodridge substation until June 4, 1928, when the flow to it from 380 houses was diverted to the sewers of the Washington suburban sanitary district. The pumpage of sewage and storm water at the main station amounted to 29,753,998,000 gallons during the year. The Poplar Point substation pumped 725,000,000 gallons, the Rock Creek substation 847,014,000 gallons, the Woodridge substation 9,758,525 gallons, and the Earle Place substation 437,950 gallons. Eliminating Rock Creek, Woodridge, and Earle Place substations, which deliver their discharge to the main station, the above indicates a mean daily discharge through the outfall sewer of 83,504,104 gallons.

In spite of a considerable loss in heat value of coal due to spontaneously generated bunker fires during the year, the coal consumption fell to 4,423 tons, 166 tons less than the previous year. A

method of bunkering coal having been put in practice which it is believed will prevent any future fires and practically all of the suggestions of the Bureau of Mines having been adopted, it is confidently expected that another year will show an appreciable saving in coal.

The pollution of the Potomac River by discharge of raw sewage was somewhat worse during this year than last, but not as bad as it has been during some recent years.

The continual increase of flow into Rock Creek substation due to the extension of the upper Potomac interceptor has resulted in overburdening it. A contract was let during the latter part of the year for the necessary pumps, motors, and starting equipment to increase the pumping capacity of the substation about fivefold, an installation which it is believed will meet all future needs.

After some months of trouble with Woodridge substation, due to repeated occurrences of flow into the station beyond its pumping capacity, arrangements were made to divert the flow from the substation to the sewers of the Washington suburban sanitary district. Connections were made and the substation put out of service on June 4, 1928.

WATER MAINS

During the year 108,996 linear feet, or 20.64 miles, of water main of various sizes were laid, at an aggregate cost of \$257,191, making a total length of main now in service of 772.16 miles.

WATER CONSUMPTION

The mean daily water consumption was 70,170,424 gallons, giving an approximate mean daily per capita consumption of 127 gallons.

Total pumpage for the year was 15,133,429,400 gallons.

Total coal burned was 6,997 tons.

The cost of operating pumps for the year was \$99,045.60, as against \$121,871.33 in 1927, the decrease being due to the operation of the new Dalecarlia pumping plant for a part of the period.

The financial statement of the water department revenues and expenditures will be found in the report of the auditor of the District of Columbia.

WATER METERS

During the year 2,173 meters were installed, and 79,077, or 85.3 per cent, of the total water services are now metered.

Respectfully submitted.

PROCTOR L. DOUGHERTY,
SIDNEY F. TALIAFERRO,
WILLIAM B. LADUE,

Commissioners of the District of Columbia.





